

**ELECTION CENTRAL**

**WARD 2 CANDIDATES**

**Wayne McLellan**

**Pam Sheldon**

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incompatible uses as golf driving ranges and drive-in theatres, both of which were proposed for the Hornby area during council's past term.

Mrs. Sheldon said her chief ambition in becoming a councillor is to convey Ward 2's varying viewpoints to Halton Hills' urban council members. The common denominator she

perceives among those different viewpoints is a desire to maintain the ward's rural character, which Mrs. Sheldon calls an integral and essential part of the town's own nature. Halton Hills, after all, has a "distinctly rural flavor" as a whole, she said, advocating its preservation.

It's the differing lifestyles blended together in rural Halton that attracted much of the attention from "Ruralities", RDOP's published guide to better living comes under the scrutiny of RDOP's local task force, set up by university representatives and area residents to make UG's rurally-oriented resources available on an ongoing basis.

While Mrs. Sheldon applauds precedents set by former municipal governments in this area by maintaining strict budget controls year after year, she contends that more funds being directed toward urban projects should instead be allocated to rural road reconstruction. Plenty of gravel was spread last year to alleviate a serious situation, she acknowledges, but rebuilding is of more importance.

"Esquusing gets one major service from the municipality - roads," she said. "I don't think we're expecting too much for our taxes by asking for better roads. (Ward 2 councillors) will have to be more persuasive and work with the urban councillors, instead of trying confrontation politics. I'm quite willing to listen to them and help give their wards what they need."

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tion that grosses \$200,000 a year."  
**NEED GRAVEL**  
Meanwhile, Halton's aggregate industry is something the region needs, Mr. McLellan said, although he strongly opposes an alleged provincial cabinet policy which puts aggregate industry concerns over conservation worries about damage to the Niagara escarpment from excavation

projects.  
"These quarries should be well planned and located so that they don't conflict with the escarpment," he said. "They provide employment for local residents and they pay their taxes."  
Urging young people to vote because they should get involved with local issues and help "preserve (Esquusing's) identity as a rural area" Mr. McLellan said that the general

lack of interest indicated so far in this election may be the result of the public's "frustration" with provincial and federal politics.  
"It doesn't seem to matter what their concerns are, the politicians just don't listen to them," he said.  
"I don't intend to fence-sit," he added. "I'm willing to listen and I have vested interest in the community where I plan to raise my family."

**Nick Hunsley**

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gravel pits, aggregate is needed to "better our own roads and others outside the region".

Claiming that council has a tendency to act on bad road conditions only after residents express their concern, Mr. Hunsley said studies and planning should be done well in advance of complaints.

Turning to issues concerning Halton Hill's urban areas, Mr. Hunsley said that council must continue to look for industrial land and set some long term planning goals for industrial development.

"I'd like to see large industry move in to bring employment into Halton Hills," he said, "and we should now be looking towards making the right commitments in our sewage capacity to attract industry. Sooner or later, we're going to have to increase it."

Meanwhile, Mr. Hunsley said that the library-theatre complex in Georgetown while not of dramatic importance to the people of Esquusing, is a necessity if used properly and frequently, and doesn't become a burden on the taxpayer.

But, he said, he would have preferred the complex to have been constructed near the arena, keeping the town's foremost recreational centres in one location.

"We have to get into planning and long-range funding to get the road needs studies done," he said.

Although he would like to see rural assessment lowered because, he said, residents in Esquusing get little for their tax dollar, Mr. Hunsley suggested that perhaps some

money could be returned to the rural area in the form of grants of subsidies for recreation. Roads could also benefit from additional funding, he added.

**MORE CONTROL**  
"The local council needs more control over the aggregate industries operating here," he said, "but this is tough because the provincial government holds the permits to excavate. I think we should have a little more say about when and where new pits will open and then get some information from the government."  
Mr. Hunsley suggested that rural residents might be a little less concerned about gravel-laden trucks if aggregate producers had short, alternate access roads to main arteries, rather than using rural routes.

Mr. Hunsley also called for larger representation in regional government from Halton Hills, and said that, while Halton "has grown some legs, it still can't walk properly".

"The voting bloc in the south can vote for, and get, whatever they want," he said. "We only have four representatives."

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**Russ Miller**

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sive but confident, optimistic but somehow resigned. He was elected as a Ward 2 area councillor in 1976 vowing to fight the region, but the following year vowed to try and improve it when he opted for the ward's regional seat. Since then, he said, there have been many improvements, but such recent revelations as that of the treasury department's \$600,341 deficit provides evidence of much more room for improvement.

Coun. Miller blames the deficit problem on council's willingness to set its annual budgets without benefit of audited statements from the previous year. Staff reports which were supposed to guide council at budget time were simply inadequate, he said, adding that most council members realized last spring they'd have to move fast on a planned staff management study.

The study is now underway and Coun. Miller calls it "one of the best things that's ever happened to the region". Meanwhile, he pointed out, budget reallocations have reduced the \$600,000 deficit to \$37,315.

**MORE SERVICE**  
Coun. Miller noted he's getting more calls from rate-payers these days, but fewer complaints. This he credits to improvements he's made himself in the way of communication. His biannual newsletter and occasional bulletins, often personally delivered to rural mailboxes, keep constituents informed and let them know who to call when problems occur.

In the coming term, Coun. Miller said he'd like to have a permanent waste transfer station set up in Halton Hills, would like to see both stretches of Regional Road 3 reconstructed as far as the Wellington County line and would like to provide more social service benefits - particularly day care - in areas of Halton where they're currently lacking.

And, he added, the budgets at both town and regional levels must be held as much as possible to the minimum.

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