

ELECTION CENTRAL

Gravel, taxes main concerns

With less than two weeks to go before the municipal election, The Herald invites you to scrutinize the candidates and their views and urges you to make a responsible choice and exercise your all-important right to vote Nov. 8. Herald municipal beat reporter Chris Aagaard has gleaned

the following profiles on candidates for the mayoralty and all Wards 1 and 2 council and school board seats from last week's candidates' meeting in Acton, from campaign literature and from personal interviews. Next Wednesday, your Wards 3 and 4 candidates and separate school board candidates.

WARD 2 LOCAL COUNCIL



Sheldon

The busyness of her inaugural term, in which she chaired the town's official plan task force, has only whetted Pam Sheldon's appetite for more action on the local political scene.

Coun. Sheldon has said she wants to continue working for Esquesing residents and their interests on town council, keeping taxes low and ensuring that official plan policies for the rural area are followed.

Her campaign literature also maintains: — that while there is a need to take a "hard-nosed approach to town finances", road concerns in Esquesing should not be ignored;

— that land in the rural area should not be "frozen" for future use by the aggregate industry;

— that the official plan should be enforced to protect valuable farmland, and inform developers of what kind of land development is acceptable in Halton Hills.



Hill

Former mayor of Halton Hills Tom Hill is not unfamiliar with the needs of residents in Esquesing, whom he hopes to represent on local council after the Nov. 8 elections.

Among the concerns facing rural residents, he says, are:

— high taxes in the township. Mr. Hill maintains that Esquesing residents are "paying too much for too little". He believes that there are two ways of rectifying the imbalance: cut rural taxes or put the extra money to use, providing residents (especially those living in the hamlets), with sidewalks and possibly sewer and water service.

— the condition of rural roads. They "leave a lot to be desired", Mr. Hill said, acknowledging that some of them are the region's responsibility. — aggregate mining in the township. Extracting material from the Niagara Escarpment would be of less bother.



Kuiken

After ten years in the household appliance business, Acton's Jake Kuiken is planning to try his hand at local politics.

Mr. Kuiken is running for one of Esquesing's local council seats and wants to see something done about:

— the recreation department's "user-pay" system, which affects sports clubs in the township's villages. If high user-pay fees are added to clubs' expenses, it may mean some will have to fold, leaving youngsters with little to do;

— rural roads. He feels they need more attention and dirt ones should be graded and oiled; — aggregate concerns which have occupied council's time recently. While he notes the town will have to share its aggregate resources, it should be able to control where the material is to be extracted and how much will be needed to meet the province's future demands.



Norton

While he is currently a resident of Georgetown, Pete Norton, running for one of Esquesing's local council seats, has spent much of his life living in and working for the rural area.

Early in his campaign, he told The Herald that the people he has talked to are concerned with:

— the conditions of roads in the town's surrounding rural area. "It's almost as if the roads become narrower as the ditches get wider," he said.

— keeping the youth of the community active; — the fact that rural residents don't get the services for the money they pay in taxes. He says he also offers council his experience as a small businessman.

★ Star symbol indicates incumbent

Pomeroy: keep town finances healthy



Having already led town council through two of its busiest terms in recent history, Mayor Pete Pomeroy hopes to hold onto his job to finish things he's already started.

He anticipates that as town councils across the country deal with the tight economy, the next term will be one of the toughest ever.

Realistically, he says: — councillors at the

regional and local levels may have to consider priority changes and program cutbacks in order to balance budgets next year and keep tax increases low. One policy he helped forge and which has kept the town out of the red steers away from borrowing large sums of money and incurring heavy interest payments; — there's still plenty of work left in planning future development for the town, now that the official

plan has been endorsed by council. During the next term, the new plan will be challenged and council will have to deal with the opposition;

— council must deal with the aggregate issue, even if it means going to court to protect the rights of property owners whose land may be "frozen" (from future development because of the province's perceived demand for new supplies of gravel;

— council must continue to support plans which attract new industry into town and help develop others, like the area's fledgling tourist industry as perceived by the North Halton Tourism Association. The town, he told Acton residents last week at an all-candidates meeting, stands to benefit from the aggressive marketing approach which the Association has taken to promote the area.

Job creation an issue: McKenzie

Mayoralty candidate Glen McKenzie thinks that local government should get involved in an area normally reserved for provincial and federal authorities: solving unemployment.

He told The Herald last week that, as mayor, he would be willing to take a cut in pay if he thought it might help put local un-

employed residents to work. The town, he said, should look at areas where it is wasting money, make fuller use of its current staff and do more to encourage industry to settle here and provide jobs.

He also maintains: — that Acton needs better GO transit service; he told last week's all-candidates meeting that

there should be more buses serving residents at later hours;

— that the old Acton town hall should be scrapped. In its place, the town should construct a community centre for use by Acton, Esquesing and Georgetown residents.

Acknowledging the long-standing rivalry between Acton and Georgetown

residents, Mr. McKenzie, 27, said that the town should strive to rid itself of the competitiveness "and get along the best we can";

— that Acton has been neglected by the regional and local councils. He argues that more of Acton's share of the levy should be spent in the community.



WARD 1 LOCAL COUNCIL



Knechtel

Ross Knechtel, hoping to secure his local council seat for a third term, told voters last week that they need experienced representation to deal with such weighty documents as the official plan and the town's annual budget.

Coun. Knechtel said he prefers to approach his job not as a politician, but as a taxpayer. As such, he wants to:

— continue town council's "tight-budgetting" approach which has kept taxes below the inflation rate for the last two years;

— work with councillors to attract new development to town which will broaden the town's tax base and even add to recreation facilities;

— centralize the town's administration which is currently scattered in various offices largely in Georgetown and Esquesing township.



Bonnette

Rick Bonnette, a lifetime Acton resident whose father was also in municipal politics, suggests that local governments should cut down on "frills", while maintaining essential services.

He recommends that: — the Halton regional police force man the Acton police station 24 hours a day, commenting that Acton can use more officers to help curb the community's vandalism problem;

— town employees living and working in Acton should be able to "punch in" in their community rather than driving to Georgetown to do it. Some works department vehicles should be kept at the Acton works yard;

— while taxpayers should not pay for the restoration of the town hall, supporters for its preservation should be allowed to use their own funds to refurbish the building.



Cargill

If elected an Acton local councillor, Bruce Cargill would like to curb recreation department spending and local vandalism.

A Queen Street, Acton, resident, Mr. Cargill said last week that Actonians need improved police protection. This, he said means more foot patrols and 24-hour service at the local police station.

In addition, he wants:

— the recreation department's user-pay system (sports groups "rent" the facilities they use) eliminated. Rather than hire more people, the department's staff should be used to its fullest;

— better maintenance of sports facilities in town, noting that lights at a local tennis court are kept on until well after players have finished their games.



Devine

With new blood on local council, residents will have new ideas working for them, Acton.

Although he lives in Georgetown, Mr. Devine says he feels that having operated an amusement arcade in Acton, he understands some of the issues facing the community.

Among those, he says: — is the need to get more policemen out on foot patrol in the community;

— is the aggregate issue and the fact that a recent map proposed by regional planners has endangered part of Acton's expanded urban boundary; this, he says, could curb community growth; — is the need to slow property tax increases.



Taylor

As one who has learned from experience not to make promises to constituents, Esther Taylor told Actonians last week that as a Ward 1 councillor she would "deal with the issues as they arise".

Miss Taylor, a former Acton town councillor in the 1950s, described this policy as "plain speaking".

She has said: — that she wants to see more of the total levy (region-school-town) Halton Hills ratepayers face each year returned to town coffers;

— at last week's all-candidates meeting Miss Taylor said "The rec department staff will be empire builders if they aren't checked before it's too late."

WARDS 1 AND 2 PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD



Bruce

Incumbent Ward 1 school trustee Arlene Bruce believes that after two years of school board experience, she can now do an even better job for her constituents in Acton.

She told residents last week that school board cost cutting has only begun and despite public furor arising from last year's education budget, Mrs. Bruce believes the public school system in Halton is a good one.

She added: — that trustees should seek a more efficient operation of the school system;

— that more of the onus to monitor school programs will fall on trustees; — that in the current era of economic restraint, public expectations of what the board can afford with its budget may have to be lowered.



Hinton

H.H. (Bert) Hinton has been a reeve of Acton, a warden of Halton under the old county system and a former public school board trustee. He wants to return to the Halton board of education to tackle such issues as:

— community use of schools;

— escalating teachers' salaries;

— the problem of declining enrollment while school taxes are increasing.

He called on the education system to "get back to basics" on its curriculum and told an Acton audience last week that while he respects incumbent trustee Arlene Bruce, he feels the community needs "a strong voice to control wasteful spending at the board".



Howitt

Esquesing public school trustee candidate Dick Howitt believes that the Halton board of education has already started efforts to keep costs in line and he adds that he doesn't have any "magical solutions" to easy yearly budget headaches.

Whatever cost-cutting the board has in mind for next year, he says, should be approached on a gradual basis, trimming frills from schools first, moving to the divisional board administrations in the north and south and then cutting back at the board's central office if further measures are necessary.

Trustees may have concentrated on the budget this year, but Mr. Howitt doesn't want the

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Kenzie

Public school board trustee candidate Jim Kenzie is concerned that the province is gradually dissolving local school boards.

Particularly worrisome to Mr. Kenzie, running in Esquesing township, is the education ministry's bid to draw school taxes directly into provincial coffers, by passing local boards, but later dividing the sum among them.

Mr. Kenzie is also concerned with: — school board budgeting. He has suggested that the board use a "zero-base" approach, paying for programs on the basis of the quality of education they provide; — getting people on the

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Get out and vote!

Herald Special
Many people who regularly make up their own household budgets and go to the bank to work out credit arrangements often abdicate responsibility when it comes to community housekeeping. Statistics show average turnout figures for local government elections are only 43 per cent, and in many elections, only 30

per cent or lower. Casting a vote means contributing to the direction of local resources and the quality of life down the street and in the community. Votes cast in local elections work on a day-to-day basis to keep basic services working — the traffic flowing, the water running, the police and

fire services prepared. Elected members of councils, school boards and public utilities supervise the planning and running of these services. Starting this year, their term of office has been increased from two years to three, to help increase the effectiveness of local government.

BARRY D. TIMLECK
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT
16 Mountainview Rd. S., Suite 301
Halton Hills (Georgetown)
Ontario L7G 4K1
877-6948

TOWN OF HALTON HILLS
877-5185

1982 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS
NOTICE TO ELECTORS
The Regular Polling Day for the Municipal Council, School Board Trustees and Halton Hills Hydro-Electric Commission Elections is to be held on November 8th, 1982 during the hours of 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

A notice has been mailed to qualified electors in the Municipal advising of the location of their Polling Place.

Advance Polls will be held on October 30th, 1982 during the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for electors who expect to be unable to vote on November 8th, 1982 at the following three locations:

Trinity United Church Mill Street East (Acton)
Municipal Administration Building Trafalgar Road (Halton Road No. 3)
Municipal Building 36 Main Street South, Georgetown area.

Subject to certain conditions, an elector may vote by proxy by appointing in writing on the prescribed form a person who is entitled to vote at this election. Such appointment is not valid unless certified by the Clerk not later than 5 o'clock in the afternoon on November 8th, 1982. Forms referred to are obtainable from the Clerk's Office.

Zellers CORRECTION
Due to an error, prices for the following items in our Hallowe'en Tab should read:
"Dads" Oatmeal Cookies Reg \$1.99... \$1.50 ea.
750 g Bag of Hallowe'en Kisses... \$1.64 ea.
Bag of 101 "Kiddie Pops"... \$1.50 ea.

TOWN OF HALTON HILLS
877-5185
PUBLIC NOTICE
HALLOWE'EN - OCT. 30/82
The Council of the Town of Halton Hills has proclaimed, by resolution, that Hallowe'en festivities be observed, throughout the municipality, on Saturday, October 30th, 1982.
K.R. Richardson, A.M.C.T.
Clerk Administrator
36 Main Street South
Halton Hills (Georgetown)
Ontario L7G 4X1.

TOWN OF HALTON HILLS
877-5185
TENDERS
for
SNOW REMOVAL
Halton Hills Hydro will receive sealed tenders up to 12:00 noon, November 11/82.
Information to bidder will be available at the Georgetown Office, 66 Mill Street or 43 Alice Street, Acton.
Tenders to be addressed to:
G.R. Trudell, Manager
Halton Hills Hydro
66 Mill St., Georgetown
or
43 Alice Street,
Acton, Ontario

BUSINESS DIRECTORY
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
Goebelle Wagner MacAdam
37 Main Street South
Halton Hills (Georgetown)
877-5155
453-5532
5533 Main Street
Georgetown, Ontario
826-6352
FRANK J. JOHNSON
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— Pension & Corporate Taxation Planning
— Bookkeeping Services
— Financial Statements
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SURVEYORS
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18 Mountainview Road South, Suite 101,
Halton Hills (Georgetown) Ontario L7G 4K1
(416) 877-2311 457-2522

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877-5185
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K.R. RICHARDSON
CLERK ADMINISTRATOR AND
RETURNING OFFICER,
36 MAIN STREET SOUTH,
HALTON HILLS (GEORGETOWN) ONTARIO
L7G 4X1
DATED THIS 20TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 1982.