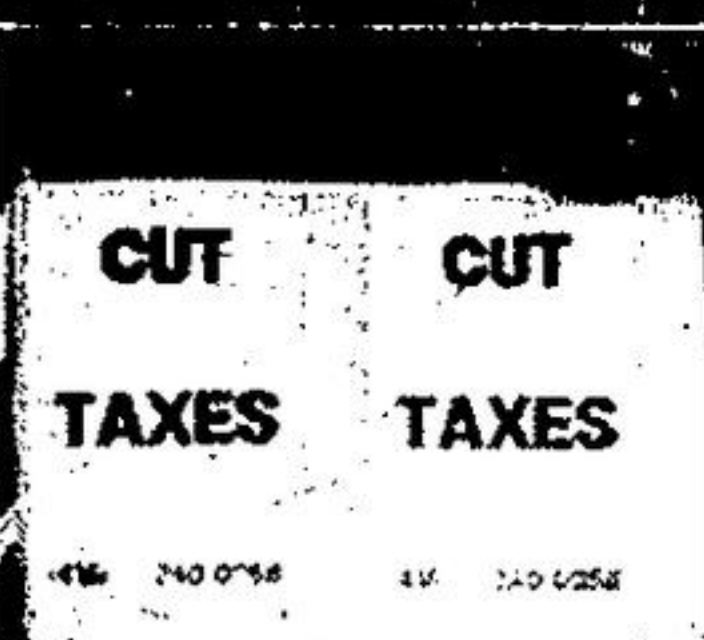



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# Wilson, Turner attack high taxes at PC fundraiser

By DONNA KELL  
Herald Staff

Halton-Peel MP Garth Turner and federal Finance Minister Michael Wilson walked side by side at James Snow's Trafalgar Road farm Tuesday night before parading into a fundraising dinner held by the Progressive Conservatives.

Months have passed since the federal budget aimed at cutting Canada's national deficit was released, and months have passed since Mr. Turner told Mr. Wilson to "be strong, be yourself" following a televised budget leak. But Mr. Turner's enthusiasm for the finance minister hasn't cooled, as

the pair demonstrated at a \$150 a plate fundraising dinner in Hornby that attracted over 200 supporters.

"The relationship has been good" between Mr. Wilson and himself since Mr. Turner left the ranks of the media to take a seat in the House of Commons, Mr. Turner said.

"Frankly, I had some doubts when I went to Ottawa about exactly how I'd be received. I criticized Mr. Wilson's budget in the past. I testified before a House of Commons committee regarding tax reform in the first stage. So, I had given this guy every chance in the world to consider me a jerk."

But the political relationship bet-

ween the finance minister and the local MP is a good one, both claim.

Says Mr. Wilson: "When Garth came to Ottawa I knew he had good ideas and I wanted to make full use of those good ideas."

"We're part of the same team and that is the way we've approached things in Ottawa."

Mr. Wilson said Mr. Turner has "insight" and "energy" as well as a great amount of support. "I'm very pleased to include him in as many things as I can."

Before Mr. Turner was elected MP for Halton-Peel and at the time he was nominated for the Progressive Conservative party in the new riding - defeating Carlo Testa -

Mr. Wilson said he was "pretty sure" the former newspaper columnist would be elected.

But when news of Mr. Turner's election to Parliament Hill arrived, Mr. Wilson said his reaction was "holy s...."

But since then, the two have "worked very well together" and showed the "same impatience" for tax reform, the finance minister said.

"When you cut through it all, what I want to do and what Garth wants to do are the same thing."

The finance minister discussed the budget and tax reform and revealed that a technical paper explaining the new nine per cent

manufacturer's tax would be released this summer. He did not give a specific month.

Both Mr. Turner and Mr. Wilson said the Tories want to end "unfair taxation" that gives advantages to the rich.

"The existing tax is broken, it's a mess," said Mr. Wilson. "One out of three taxpayers today have a special deal with Revenue Canada. And that type of tax is wrong."

In an after-dinner speech, Mr. Wilson said the deficit reduction is still a top aim of the federal PC party. There is a directive to tax those who can afford to pay.

Middle income earners are like "sitting ducks," said Mr. Turner. The old tax system had "loopholes" for the rich, he said.

"I support a level-playing-field kind of tax. And I think a tax on consumption is better than a tax on income because I think we're hitting the people there who are spending the most, who deserve, in a way, to be taxed because they have the disposable income."

The nine per cent manufacturer's tax replaces a 12 per cent tax that applied to 40 per cent of manufactured goods. Under the new taxation system, all manufactured goods with the exception of medical drugs and food, will be taxed.

In a press conference in March, Mr. Turner revealed the new tax system which he said would affect the consumer and not the wage earner. His "Citizen's Guide to the New Sales Tax" was released before the federal budget announcement in late April.

## Toronto eyes Acton quarry

The Acton quarry has been listed as a possible location for Metro Toronto's waste in the future by an aid to Environment Minister Jim Bradley.

A memo released by New Democratic Party Leader Bob Rae printed in the Toronto Star July 5 names the Acton site as possible competition to several locations proposed by Envacc Resources Inc., one of the firms bidding on Metro Toronto's lucrative waste disposal contract.

The memo, written by Harry Poch, a lawyer for Envacc to Jim Beatty, a colleague at Envacc, lists the source of the information as Gary Gallon, an aid to Mr. Bradley.

Halton Regional Chairman Pete Pomeroy said the memo does not confirm Acton has been placed on an official list of possible sites.

## Making waves

Oh to be a kid again! Wendy Cadmore, 12, Kerry Wright, 11, and Tina Palmer, 10, take advantage of their summer holidays and battle the current heat wave by cooling off at the Dick Licata Memorial Pool.

In back of the Georgetown arena Wednesday. The pool opened Monday, July 3 and will continue to be open seven days a week until Aug. 7. (Herald photo by Ben Dummett)