RUSS MILLER RE-ELECTED

By BEN DUMMETT The Herald

Halton Hills residents will have incumbent Mayor Russ Miller as their Town leader for another threeyear term, unofficial election results showed Tuesday night.

Mr. Miller had 6,337 votes compared with mayoralty challenger Rob Barlow who had 3,943 votes with unofficial results from all 93 polls reported.



Russ Miller

An obviously happy Mr. Miller arrived to the applause of many at the Halton Hills Civic Centre at approximately 9:15 pm on election night to accept early congratulations for his apparent election victory and on celebrating his 59th birthday the same day.

The victorious Mr. Miller and the defeated mayoralty candidate Mr. Barlow, apparently didn't cross paths on this night of obviously mixed emotions

After mingling among his many well-wishers, Mr. Miller took time to voice some strong words about some of the more vocal Town ratepayer groups and the way they conducted themselves during the last few months, leading up to the elections.

He pointed to one group in particular, Furiously Opposed to Acton Dumping, (F.O.A.D.), saying "I don't plan to listen to them anymore."

During recent council meetings, F.O.A.D. members have attacked councillors for not doing all they could to stop the Acton dump proposal from proceeding any further in the approval process.

Special interest groups such as F.O.A.D. represent the vocal minority;"well the silent majority spoke tonight," said Mr. Miller.

Becoming increasingly more confident, he continued, "This is my Town, and these are my people and I will continue to be mayor of all of the people all of the time, and not for some of the people, some of the time."

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That means, said Mayor Miller,"I will continue to listen to all of the people very carefully during the next three years.

Questioned on what will be the first item on his agenda during the new term, Mr. Miller said, "It's business as usual."

Mr. Miller said he wasn't surprised at being re-elected, nor did he think it was a difficult election campaign.

"A campaign is never tough when you have good workers," he said.

However, he did say some of the challengers ran a "dirty campaign."

Referring to those other than his competition, Mr. Miller said, "It was terrible what some of the challengers did to some incumbents."

Although he would'nt name names, Mr. Miller accused some of the challengers of trying to smear the characters of some incumbents including Marilyn Serjeantson, Joe Hewitt and Rick Bonnette.

The mayor was especially upset that some candidates campaigned this past Sunday.

"I've never campaigned on Sundays," he said.



Bob Barlow

He left his final comments for Mr. Barlow and Regional councillor candidate Linda Walton.

Pointing out they have only lived in Halton Hills for four months and two years respectively, Mr. Miller said they wanted to take over the Town and operate it for their own self-interest, but the silent majority spoke out against this idea.

Mr. Barlow, who showed up at the Civic Centre about an hour after Miller arrived, took his defeat in stride.

"I'm not unpleased with the results," said a relatively upbeat Mr. Barlow.

"We did considerably well considering I only started to campaign four weeks ago," he continued.

Commenting on the election campaign in general, Mr. Barlow said, "I' tried to focus on the issues and there are lot of issues including the Acton dump proposal and development."

He was disappointed, however, at the relatively low voter turnout.

Approximately 33 per cent of the total eligible voters cast their ballots compared to approximately 44 per cent who voted during the last municipal election.

Mr. Barlow said he will continue as a private citizen of the community to fight the Acton dump proposal.

As for running again, Mr. Barlow said, he will have to wait and see how well his consulting business is doing at the time.

"It takes a lot effort to run a campaign," said Mr. Barlow.



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HALTON HILLS, ONTARIO - WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13th, 1991



Remembrance Day honor guard

Cpl. Martin of the Lorne Scots, was a member of the honor guard at the Acton Cenotaph at Trinity United Church during Remembrance Day services

Sunday morning. He stands guard among the wreaths laid to honor Acton war dead. (Herald Photo by Steven LeBlanc)



For more election coverage turn to pages 14 & 15

