

OTTAWA REPORT

Municipal candidates applauded

First off, my congratulations to all those who won office in this week's municipal election. And my admiration to everybody who stood as a candidate.

Having gone through the process, I know how exhausting, difficult, costly and frustrating it is. Elections are tests of endurance - going door to door, standing up to give speeches and being challenged at every turn by your critics. And for what? For the opportunity of temporarily occupying an office and suddenly being the object of public cynicism and anger.

Given this, it has surprised me that such good people would run for election. It shows the system still works. And, again, my personal thanks - as a colleague in public life - to those who just went through this gruelling exercise.

Last week I voted in support of a number of new laws in the House of Commons which have to do with law and order. The government is bringing in changes to toughen up the Young Offenders Act, because kids can't believe that they can do a crime and then walk away with a slap on the wrist.

We also made changes to the extradition rules, so never again can a Charles Ng spend six years in a Canadian prison using our laws to avoid justice. Canada cannot become a safe haven for sleazeballs from around the world.

There were also changes to the regulations governing parole, so that violent offenders don't end up getting day passes or see their sentences unduly shortened. Canadians are sick and tired of the abuses which have been allowed to happen in the past. We're also fed up with criminals getting more rights than victims. With the new changes, victims will get a say in the parole system - which only makes common sense.

I supported all of these

Garth
Turner
MP
Halton-Peel
Progressive
Conservative



changes, in the name of public safety and security. But I have to tell you that I voted against the gun control legislation when it was brought up for second reading. (I missed the final vote because I was chairing a meeting of corporate executives who had flown to Ottawa from across Canada for the O Canada project - which I'll tell you about soon.)

The gun control bill, in my view, was wrong from the start.

Instead of taking guns away from criminals, it will make legitimate gun owners into criminals. It will also create a whole new bureaucracy in Ottawa, which is about the last thing we need.

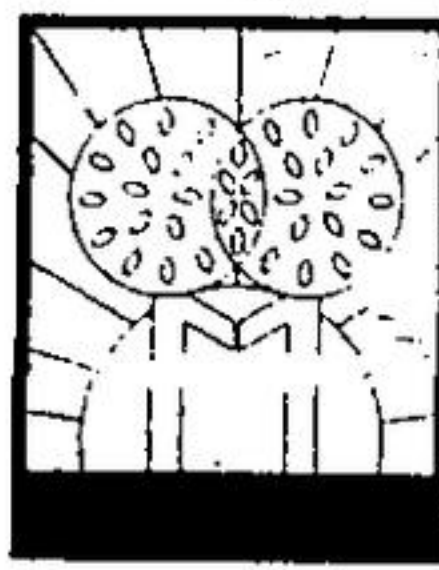
I voted against the government on this one because I want a gun law which spells out mandatory sentences for crimes committed with firearms. I want a law which clearly tells the bad guys that if they use a gun, they can im-

mediately expect to be doing a lot of time. I do not want a law - like the one we now have - which gives bureaucrats the power to decide what is legal and what is not.

Some people tried to portray a vote against the bill as a vote for guns - which is bizarre. What we need are laws that accomplish society's goals, not laws that are trendy or politically correct.

Of 295 MPs, I was only one of 13 who stood up in opposition - and that was not easy. Probably not good for my political career, either. But it's you, not the chief government whip, who will decide that.

Good Neighbours



Standing by each other.

Find out how you can get your community involved by contacting:

The Ministry of
Citizenship
Office for Senior
Citizens' Affairs

CALL COLLECT:
(416) 327-2460

Town hall meeting

Halton's Peel MP Garth Turner is hosting another Town Hall Meeting for the residents of Halton Hills on Friday, November 15 at McKenzie-Smith Public School gym in Acton.

The meeting will start at 7:30 p.m. Topics being discussed include the economy and the recent proposals for changes to the constitution in this open accountability session. There will be plenty of opportunity for questions and comments.

"I encourage everyone to come out and be part of the political process," Turner said.

QUEEN'S PARK REPORT

October was a busy month

I'd like to start off by thanking everyone who attended the Open house at my Milton office last month. The resource people at the event included representatives from the Workers' Compensation Board and the Office for the Greater Toronto Area, and several guests took advantage of the opportunity to speak to these individuals.

October was also a busy month at Queen's Park. Attorney General Howard Hampton launched a public awareness campaign outlining the economic and social costs of unpaid family support and also announced the new Family Support Plan. And Health Minister Frances Lankin released a public consultation paper on long-term care.

The Public Awareness Campaign was designed to highlight the serious social problem of unpaid support payments. Many people don't realize the economic consequences for women and children when support payments are withheld. And it's a problem that concerns everyone. Three-quarters of the support orders filed with the Ministry are in default to a certain extent. More than 80,000 children are not receiving family support, over \$470 million is owed in arrears, and \$140 million in social assistance has been paid to families not receiving support. We all share these costs.

The new Family Support Plan will come into effect on March 1st of next year and allows for the automatic deduction of support payments from income. The system is new to Ontario but not a

new concept elsewhere. It has been used in Wisconsin since 1983 and in 35 other American states since then.

Here's how the Family Support Plan will work. At the time the support order is made, the court will also make an order requiring payment by way of deduction from the parent's income. The order will be immediately forwarded to the Family Support office which will serve the employer with the order. The employer will be required to deduct the appropriate amount and forward it to the Family Support office for prompt distribution to the family. The support deduction is similar to the way income tax is deducted and will become the normal way to pay support orders. The new system will apply to all court orders made in Ontario after March 1st and can also be applied to existing orders if practical. Employees will not be fired because they are paying support payments under the automatic deduction plan.

Noel
Duignan
Halton North
MPP
New Democratic
Party



I also mentioned the release of the public discussion paper by Health Minister Frances Lankin. The document called Redirection of Long-Term Care and Support Services in Ontario sets out the government principles, goals and priorities for the redirection of long-term care for seniors and adults with physical disabilities. An extensive consultation process is already underway and is expected to last at least four months. The paper reflects our new directions for long-term care which were announced in June. These directions emphasize a shift away from institutions and toward community alternatives. They include the following principles:

- an integrated approach to the provincial management of all long-term health care and social services.
- better co-ordination of services.
- assurance of greater community preparation.
- re-alignment of funding policies to reduce regional disparities.
- increased funding for supportive housing.

For more information about the consultation paper please call my Milton office at 878-1729 Tuesdays through Fridays.

And finally, I'd like to congratulate the individuals recently elected to the municipal governments in Halton Hills and Milton and to commend all the candidates for making the effort to participate in an important electoral process.

REVERSE
MORTGAGES

Available At...



**MONEY
CONCEPTS**
FINANCIAL PLANNING CENTRE
348
Guelph St.
Georgetown
873-1877



Established
1973

**HALTON HILLS
COLLISION**

R.R. 1, ACTON, ONT.

CREWSON'S
CORNERS
853-2860

Georgetown & District Memorial Hospital
Auxiliary

presents their 33rd Annual

Christmas Ball

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6th

Punch Served at 7:00 P.M.

Dinner at 7:30 P.M.

Holy Cross Auditorium

Music by

Dave Smallwood

Tickets \$50⁰⁰/couple

Available At The Hospital Gift Shop
- or call -

Vi at 877-4593 or
Brenda at 877-8212

Hallmark

Please Join Us at Our
**CHRISTMAS
OPEN HOUSE**

Weekend of November 16

9:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

Preview the 1991 Hallmark products and promotions at your
Christmas Idea Place!

Receive a free Holiday Planner*.

Register to win a Christmas Carousel Horse,
suggested retail value - \$150.00

Enjoy the sweet sounds of Christmas with Hallmark's music
premium "The Tradition of Christmas" featuring Harry Belafonte
and Jennifer Warnes. Only \$3.99 for tapes and \$9.99 for C.D.'s
with any \$10.00 Hallmark purchase.



ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

Mr. Tom Iacona on the Classical Guitar,
Mr. Haydn Evans on Keyboard
and a Special Guest from the North Pole!
Join us for Christmas Cider, Goodies and much more!

— NEW LOCATION —

Hallmark
Greetings and Gifts

266 Guelph St., Market Place Plaza
Georgetown — 873-7096

*While Supplies Last

Hallmark, Toronto Canada
M7J 1P6