

Ward 2

In what was termed as a nasty, mudslinging race, Ward 2 incumbents Bryan Lewis and Joan Robson were returned to office, both with a sizeable majority, Monday night.

Lewis led the polls with 1,236 votes followed by Robson with 1,210. Newcomers Norm Paget had 501 votes and James Crammond received 477.

"I very much appreciate the confidence the residents of Ward 2 have once again shown in my ability to represent them," Lewis said.

He added the win was rewarding "as tactics were used ... that are beyond being fair and accurate."

His colleague Robson agreed, who endured four incidents of punctured tires and a keyed car in less than month. She reported the incidents to Halton Police.

"Whoever has done that brought our local politics to a new level," said an angry Robson.

Paget said he was not disappointed with his showing for a first-time out. Crammond was disappointed in his showing, saying he received good response at the door.

Ward 3

Incumbents Dave Kentner and Moya Johnson were elected to another term by a wide margin.

When all the votes were in, Kentner finished first with 2,150 votes, Johnson 2,051 and newcomer Bridget Rosser 939.

"I'm delighted," said Kentner, who was hoping to place first. "That was the target of our team."

"I'm feeling really great," said Johnson, now entering her sixth term as councillor. "I'm always surprised that so many people vote for me. I'm thrilled."

Both Johnson and Kentner said growth was one of the key issues constituents raised while they were out campaigning.

Johnson said the sentiment shared by most she talked to was, "we don't want to grow, we like it the way it is."

Bridget Rosser was pleased with her outcome considering she took on "two very experienced" councillors.

"I had fun," said Rosser. "It was a great experience. I want to say thank you to everyone who helped me and congratulations to both Moya and Dave, both of whom were extremely gracious to me running my first campaign."

Ward 4

There will be one familiar face and a new one representing Ward 4 around the council table over the next four years.

Incumbent Bob Inglis was re-elected to the job for a fifth term, and political newcomer Ann Lawlor won the other position unseating incumbent John Duncan.

Inglis finished the night with 1,846 votes, followed closely by Lawlor with 1,797 and Duncan with 1,042. Waldo Paquette garnered 884 votes and Ross McDuff finished last with 476.

Duncan, who served one term, watched the results come in at the Civic Centre said he was "very disappointed" with the outcome. But he said the voters have spoken.

Inglis, celebrating with his campaign team, was pleased with the outcome but said he "was a little sad for my partner" Duncan.

Lawlor said she had no idea how the night was going to turn out.

"It's my very first go at this," said Lawlor, who added the win, "hadn't really sunk in yet."

"I worked very hard and a lot of people were supporting me and also working very hard."

HDCSB trustee

Newcomer Mark Rowe scored a resounding victory over incumbent Rosanna Palmieri in the two-person race for Halton Catholic District School Board trustee.

Rowe, a retired teacher, garnered 1,756 to Palmieri's 661 votes.

"It was a pretty convincing margin of victory and I think that's because people voted against the negativity of her campaign," Rowe said from the town hall in Glen Williams.

"The Halton Catholic board that I worked for was being chipped away and laughed at and I'm glad that people voted for change."

Palmieri couldn't be reached for comment Monday evening.

Restoring bus service for Georgetown South high school students and conflict of interest issues involving the two candidates turned out to be the main talking points of the campaign.

Rowe added that with the election now over, he can concentrate on tackling the issues facing the HCDSB over the next four years when he takes his seat on the board in December.

HDSB trustee

Two of the three candidates for Halton District School Board trustee in this area served as board chair during the last term, but only one could be elected in 2010.

Gillian Tuck Kutarna was the decisive winner for the position and will represent 15 schools in north Halton, earning 3,148 votes to fellow incumbent Gerry Ockenden's 2,081.

First-time candidate Mandy Kerfoot finished third with 1,907 votes.

Due to population growth in Milton, the HDSB increased the number of trustees from one to two in Milton, while cutting Halton Hills's representation from two to one trustee.

"It's a shame that it had to go down to one, especially when two people worked hard over the past four years to get good experience at their jobs," said Tuck Kutarna, who was board chair for two years.

Ockenden, who took over as board chair in August after Oakville's Bruce Jones resigned, declined to comment.

"I wish Gillian all the best," said Kerfoot. "It's a little disappointing but I'm pleased with the support we received."

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