The Independent & FREE PRESS



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Raitt, Chong stand out at Halton CPC leadership event

By Graeme Frisque gfrisque@metroland.com

The Conservative leadership campaign tour made a stop in Burlington on Sunday (March 5), with two Halton riding MPs among the 10 hopefuls to address local party faithful.

Wellington-Halton Hills MP Michael Chong and Milton MP Lisa Raitt joined eight of their fellow leadership hopefuls at the Burlington Convention Centre. Roughly 800 people showed up to hear the field of 10 lay out their vision for both party and country.

Four of the 14 candidates were absent.

The non-party-sanctioned event was co-organized by the Burlington Conservative Association and its four sister riding associations in Halton. While more vocal and controversial candidates like Kevin O Leary and Kellie Leitch have somewhat dominated headlines in an almost Trump-like fashion, Raitt and Chong are going about their business much like they always have as long-serving members of parliament.

While many among the candidates relied on more general conservative themes while speaking to the all-Halton crowd, Raitt and Chong used their local advantage to present a different tone to the gathering of conservative voters looking for a new party leader.

Raitt has served as MP for Milton since 2008, while Chong has held the same position for Wellington-Halton Hills since 2004.

It s a great pleasure being so close to home, said Raitt in her opening remarks.



Ten of the 14 candidates vying to head the the Conservative Party of Canada into the next election in 2019 gathered at the Burlington Convention Centre on Sunday to address roughly 800 party members from Halton Regions five electoral ridings on Sunday (March 5).

Photo by Graeme Frisque

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New Farmers Market makes way into Acton for 2017 season

By Kathryn Boyle kboyle@theifp.ca

Acton could host two farmers markets this year.

After the 2016 season wrapped up, the Acton Business Improvement Area (BIA) announced the discontinuation of the farmers market for 2017.

According to manager Sheena Switzer, BIA board members felt uncomfortable putting the time and money into something that saw its attendance dwindling with every week. Disappointed, local resident and vendor Angela Tremblay took it upon herself to create one so the community wouldn t miss out.

When I heard it was dropped, I thought oh my gosh, I would love to open up the ability of the whole town enjoying it, with the benefit of the vendors building their business from it, Tremblay said.

Last November, Tremblay sat

down with Switzer to talk about taking over the Acton Farmers Market. Being a vendor of the market herself as Angie's Kitchen, Tremblay didn't want to see the market leave town. After a 45-minute discussion, Tremblay felt confident she could put something together, so she got to work.

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Under the name Farmers Market on 7, Tremblay secured 14 vendors, including a winery, vegetables, cupcakes, honey, home décor, flowers, coffee and kettle corn, and space at Bethel Church on Hwy. 7, across from the Home Hardware.

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