

Elections Canada '93

Let's get down and dirty

The federal election gauntlet has been tossed by Kim Campbell, so let the verbal jousting begin leading up to the federal election set for Oct. 25.

Nice words, eh! Frankly, after looking at them again, they almost seem to come from the comedy, 'Men In Tights'.

But then again, that's the position Canada is in because of the antics of comedians masquerading as politicians or, in a turn of phrase, politicians masquerading as comedians.

How else can you explain how Canada, a country I'm damn proud of, has been downgraded to virtual Third

Opinion

World status.

Let's get down and dirty in this campaign. Don't go to the all-candidates meetings to simply ask questions! Demand answers. And if these wannabe representatives of the people can't, or won't give you answers, tell them to take a hike - or words to that effect.

Platitudes are pleasant in the outhouse, not in the real world.

Politicians work for us, the taxpayer, let's make them earn their keep - for a change.

Colin Gibson

New voting procedures

Halton Hills residents now have a place to go and a number to call to get information about the upcoming federal election set for Oct. 25.

Don McMillan, Halton-Peel returning officer, has set up his office at 318 Guelph St. (in the Indoor Mall), where most of the permanent staff has been hired, with the exception of a few data entry personnel. He claims to be ready for the expected barrage of questions regarding this year's election procedure changes.

In the new election act, passed in April, proxy balloting has been eliminated, as has advance voting at the returning office. Voting at 12 advance offices will still be allowed, but their locations have not yet been determined.

Voters will be able to apply for a new special ballot, which will enable them to vote if they will not be in the country during the polling days. If they are currently not in the country, information on how to get applications for the special ballots can be obtained at the returning office, by friends or relatives. The special applications can be mailed out.

After they are filled out, the applications must be brought back to the returning office, or mailed to the listed Ottawa address. A voting kit will then be sent out.

McMillan pointed out, once an application form for a voting kit is received, the voters name is taken off the local voting list, prohibiting them from changing their minds and voting at local polls at the last minute. The ballot must be received by 4 p.m. Oct. 22.

"This is a whole new process," McMillan said. "I hope it works," he joked, but quickly added, "I'm sure it will."

The enumeration list for this election will be the same one used for last year's referendum. "We already know there will be a large revision," McMillan admitted.

To deal with the expected revision, special agents will be going to new developments, nursing homes, health care centres, and condominiums and apartments where there appears to be a large turnover. This will be done between Sept. 20-23.

After this time, information cards will be mailed out to the households and any difference should be reported to the returning office. Citizens have until Oct. 5 to have their names added to the list. For the first time this year, persons adding their name to the list will need proof of identification, with a photo, address and signature.

Anyone with questions can call the returning office at 873-2220.

Dissatisfaction with present system obvious

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off people quicker than lightning." She now considers "not voting at all," because she also has little confidence in the Liberal party's handling of the deficit.

Her common-law husband, Randy Scott, 42, blames former prime minister Brian Mulroney's 1989 Free Trade Agreement for the loss of his Acton-area gravel pit job that year. That, he says, forced him to live on welfare for over a year.

"I have a good job (as a mechanic and truck driver) now, but I had to live on welfarethe most degrading thing a person wants to be on," Scott, who applied for a Green Card to work in the U.S. through the United States consulate in Toronto, says. "Well, there's only one out there that's worth even talking about, and that's Kim Campbell because (Liberal leader Jean) Chretien, I wouldn't trust him as far as I can throw him with both arms."

A retired Peel St. factory worker, who does not want her name published, says she has other reasons why Kim Campbell would get her vote. "She seems to be more for the working people than others," the 60-year-old says. "She tries to cut down and do what she promised, and seems honest."

Don Dawkins, 58, who owns Blue Springs Golf Course and the recently reopened olde Hide House in Acton, has other reasons why he might vote for the Conservative party. "I don't believe that the NDP are serious contenders in the federal election," he says. "I don't believe the Liberals are a viable alternative. I think the Conservatives have made mistakes and I'm not interested in rewarding them by bringing them back in power. But, on the other hand, I have a significant amount of respect for Federal Revenue Minister and Halton-Peel MP Garth Turner as an individual MP."

Some mistakes the federal government made, says Dawkins, include overspending. He urges it to establish tighter monetary policies and a significant increase overall in government participation in various aspects of Ontario's economy.

Peel Region high school vice-principal Wally Selihar says he thinks there is "better representation from the people who work in municipal government than with federal representatives."

"Federal representatives seem so distant from their

constituents," the 4th Line resident says. "I mean, I have never seen anybody, from the federal government, coming by and asking questions, or really, trying to help the constituents."

Selihar, who plans to vote Liberal, adds "there is a proliferation of hierarchy or bureaucracy within the present federal government."

"I think that has to be reduced because the taxation is just something that you wonder when the end of it is going to come, he says, citing the GST and spiraling gas prices as part of the problem.

A new resident of Bower Street and a systems administrator for a Toronto law firm, Edmund Reid says he is also concerned about high taxes and government waste. "I think there is too much wastage, (overspending) and taxes are definitely too high," he says. "The government should do something

about that...My biggest frustration is where our tax dollars are going."

Another undecided voter says he agrees "the government needs to be cut in half."

Glenn Pembleton, of Kingham Road, adds that while the federal govern-

Tighter monetary policies urged

ment "does an okay job" as a liaison to voters, a check and balance system is needed to keep the federal government (and the economy) in line. As a manager of an independent telephone directory company in Guelph, he is also among 41 per cent of Canadians, according to a Gallup survey released this week, who fear they could lose their jobs within the next 12 months. He also says he has little patience with people who abuse Canada's social system.

"People are made to work eight hours a day," Pembleton, 38, says. "This

country of opportunity is poorly managed."

Pembleton and fellow Acton resident Jim Hurrelbrinck, 42, agree unemployment should be the top electoral issue.

"The biggest complaint I have, I guess, is like most people, is too much unemployment," Hurrelbrinck, of Norman Avenue, says, "and they (the federal government) should be doing more to counteract and to improve, the unemployment situation."

Hurrelbrinck, who owns a Georgetown transportation services company, suggests that make-work projects would help the Canadian economy get back on its feet.

"I'm actually thinking of voting for the Reform party," he says. "There are a lot of new ideas they have that might stimulate the economy, help stimulate the whole country."

Irene Markoja, a recent graduate of Ryerson Polytechnic University in Toronto, is a free-lance writer living in Rockwood.

"No fancy promises," Turner pledges

By Oksana Buhel

Garth Turner, incumbent Member of Parliament for Halton-Peel and current National Revenue Minister, believes Wednesday's federal election call is long overdue.

"It's time the Canadian government is renewed, or replaced, and I'm happy to be campaigning in this election," Turner said. He promised he would not make fancy promises, and pointed out Prime Minister Kim Campbell is following this same philosophy.

"I hope this campaign does not become too bitter or per-



Garth Turner

sonal," Turner worried, but added confidently, residents Halton Hills will be able to overlook personalities and

vote on issues.

The issues which Turner feels must be foremostly addressed are jobs and the economy. He praised Campbell's pledge to eliminate the deficit in five years. "This is the first time anyone has had the guts to marry herself to a deadline," Turner lauded.

He pointed out more support should be given to small businesses with less government intervention. "And of course there's the environment, which has become a great concern in the last while."

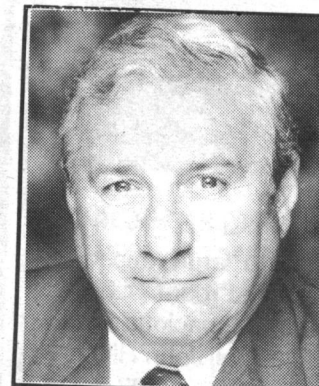
Passing judgement on the PC legacy

By Colin Gibson

Liberal Julian Reed, who is challenging Progressive Conservative incumbent Garth Turner, the National Revenue Minister, in the Halton-Peel riding issued the following statement in response to the federal election call.

"We, as Canadians voters, have an opportunity to pass judgment on the government of Brian Mulroney and the legacy he has left us and on Kim Campbell, who continues that legacy.

"This election gives us the chance to begin rebuilding Canada into a nation where citizens once again feel secure and safe and



Julian Reed

one where dreams once again have a chance of becoming reality.

"The people of Canada have grown deeply frustrated and disillusioned as a result of a government that ignores them and their needs. The anger of all Canadians, including the residents of my riding Halton-Peel, is deeper than anything I have seen before even during the 10 years I spent in the Ontario Legislature."

Reed has been out of active politics since 1985.

He continues, in his statement, "No matter where I turn, I hear the same major issues raised by citizens. Taxes continue to climb while services are cut back. Jobs disappear but nothing is done to create

new jobs. Criminals get better treatment than their victims. And our environment is seriously threatened by projects such as the mega garbage dump proposed for the Region of Peel."

Reed maintains that if elected, the Liberals' primary objective would be to "drastically reduce the federal deficit and create jobs and stimulate the economy through programs developed in cooperation with municipal and federal governments."

No specifics are mentioned, however.

He touches on the need to review the current justice system, including, "The introduction of a new area of consideration for the rights of the victims."

Again, with no specifics.

Reed promises, however, to pursue "environmentally-responsible options to projects, such as the mega garbage dump now proposed for my riding."

He compares Liberal leader Jean Chretien, to an experienced and competent sea captain, with a capable crew, who will steer Canada's troubled ship of state into a "safe harbor."

It's time to get involved in Canada

By Colin Gibson

The federal election has been called for Oct. 25 and we at Halton Hills This Week urge voters in Halton Hills to get actively involved in what may be the most important election in Canadian history. To this end, for those who want direct answers from the candidates contesting the Halton-Peel riding, we will act as the go-between.

Forward your questions to HHTW, at 232 Guelph St. Unit 9, Georgetown Ont., L7G 4B1, either by mail, in person, or through our fax machine, 416-

873-3918, and indicate which candidate(s) the question is directed to.

We will contact the candidate(s) and publish the reply(s) as well as the question(s) asked, along with the name and address of those asking the questions on our "Election '93" pages.

Should the candidate(s) either refuse to answer the questions or offer a 'No comment', this will also be published.

It really is time to get actively involved in Canada and in the election campaign in order to intelligently exercise your franchise on Oct. 25.

Declared candidates and their cam-

campaign office locations and telephone numbers are:

Garth Turner, incumbent, Progressive Conservative, 116 Guelph St., Georgetown, telephone 873-6676.

Dick MacDuffie, Reform party, 360 Guelph St., Unit 39, Georgetown, telephone 873-8822.

Julian Reed, Liberal party, 122 Guelph St., Georgetown, telephone 875-2094.

Hilliard Cox, a resident of Caledon/Bolton (519-927-5093) is running for the Libertarian party. No local campaign office has yet been opened.