

Libertarians have no fear of NOTA

Editor's note: The following press release was issued by the Libertarian Party.

There is one candidate that will not appear on the ballot Oct. 25 but should be there according to Hill Cox, the Libertarian candidate for Halton-Peel.

The candidate's name is NOTA or "None of the Above."

Cox says voters who wish to have record their frustration with all of the candidates would have a way to officially register their protest and NOTA is the candidate that should be there for them.

He noted that he ran against NOTA when he was elected leader of his party and while he beat him/her/it, he

said "...it is important that everyone has a vote that is registered. Without NOTA, how can there be true democracy?"

Asked how this could apply in a general election, he was quick to explain that "...a NOTA 'win' would send everyone back to the drawing board to clean up their act and give the government of the day a year's reprieve before going back to the people."

Warming up to the subject, we was quick to note that while NOTA would probably never win an election, it was the clearest message that could be sent to whomever did win that there was a significant number of unhappy voters out there. "This might

eliminate some of the arrogance parties have when they obtain a 'majority' with only 30-40 per cent of the popular vote."

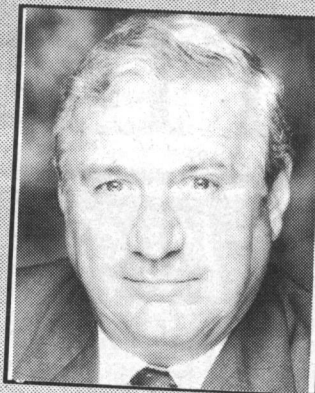
Would a Libertarian government include NOTA on the ballot? "You bet" says Cox. "I have no fear of NOTA."

What's the biggest problem with NOTA? "Writing a personal congratulatory note if NOTA wins", according to Hill. How do you address the winner? Dear It? Where do you send it?"

One thing is certain: If NOTA wins a significant vote, a lot of politicians will get the message no matter how it's addressed!

Reed concerned about environment

Editor's note: The following press release was issued by Halton-Peel Liberal election candidate Julian Reed.



Julian Reed

The issue of mega-dumps and the threat they present to our environment has been a matter of grave concern to me since my first involvement in 1976. There are a number of positive steps that can be taken, by the federal government, to stop any dump being established in the riding of Halton-Peel. As your MP in Ottawa I can promise you these will be vigorously pursued.

There is a common perception that the federal government cannot interfere in the dump site selection process because the disposal of municipal waste is a provincial responsibility. My 10 years spent in the Ontario Legislature has convinced me otherwise. A strong representative in Ottawa can make a difference.

The first recourse we have is to ensure that all potential sites are put under the full scrutiny of the Federal Fisheries Act which gives the federal government the power to protect fisheries habitat. Canada also has environmental protection legislation to prevent contamination of groundwater and waterways. Water borne contamination does not respect municipal or provincial boundaries.

In the Ontario Legislature, the Liberal members have challenged the dump selection process and have urged the government to scrap the Interim Waste Authority and Bill 143, which prevents the IWA from considering options to mega-dumps. The Liberals want to restore a true environmental assessment process and to have all options considered, including producing energy from waste incineration.

For years I have believed that governments must look for environmentally respon-

sible alternatives to simply burying untreated municipal garbage in the ground. There are alternatives to landfill which the Ontario government has never fully considered. The IWA legislation, in fact, prevents such considerations.

As a member of the Jean Chretien government, I will work to turn federal research and development funds to the issue of municipal waste. In the Liberal election plan, we commit 25 per cent of all new government funding for research and development to technologies that will enhance the environment. I can think of no better use for this money than finding and developing alternatives to mega-dumps which may well give us made-in-Canada technology for export around the world.

It is environmentally irresponsible to bury our waste, a procedure which some agencies seem to consider the only option. Contamination of our groundwater and waterways is inevitable with landfill. We must first take every possible action to reduce the quantities of waste we create and then take every possible action to treat the rest in an environmentally responsible way.

There are many who throw up their hands in despair at the situation. To them I say: it is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness.

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