




Provincial election 2003 profiles

	<p>Ted Chudleigh (Progressive Conservative)</p> 	<p>Barbara Sullivan (Liberal)</p> 	<p>Jay Jackson (New Democrat Party)</p> 	<p>Giuseppe Gori (Family Coalition Party)</p> 	<p>Matt Smith (Green Party)</p> <p>photo not available</p>
<p>4. Leadership has been a main focus of this campaign. What does your party leader offer that the others don't.</p>	<p>I think experience is the key. We saw the Premier (Ernie Eves) deliver tough, fair budgets over seven years of being the treasurer for Ontario. I think that was good insight into how he manages things he's responsible for. I think we saw him perform very well in the blackout... (Regarding SARS)... The Premier made sure the Minister of Health had the resources he needed to solve the problems... (Regarding Dalton McGuinty)... In the House I have seen him flip-flop on issues and I don't think that leads to a very strong leadership style.</p>	<p>I think Dalton (McGuinty) is a very measured person... He's energetic, unlike certain other leaders. He has a real ideological, personal, philosophical commitment to the public good... I'm not saying that the others don't, but I'm just saying it's an innate part of him. It shapes the way he makes decisions and the way he deals with people... He likes to make up his mind before becoming adamant on a topic or an issue... He's not charismatic the way some other political leaders are, but sometimes charisma isn't the right approach. I like him very much. I think he would do a really fine job as premier.</p>	<p>Class, in a word. Howard (Hampton) believes in what we are talking about, he's enthusiastic, he's tireless. He identifies with the average person... He's approachable, extremely knowledgeable, a lawyer by craft, an author, and I've seen him work with caucuses and groups of people, and he's a consensus builder... I know an NDP government under Howard's leadership would expect you (backbenchers) to be in caucus and being a party player... being a part of the process of decision making and advocate for not only the NDP... but we listen and speak for all...</p>	<p>This is a tough question for me to answer, since I am the leader of the party. I can say that the most important difference is that I am in politics because I feel "I have to", not for the rewards of a "career" or a "chair". We can say YES to YES and NO to NO, without taking a poll first. Our objective is to represent the people that agree with our philosophy, not to change philosophy according to the majority opinion, just to get elected. For this reason our policies are consistent. New ideas and politically incorrect policies are also investigated and proposed. For the same reasons, we do not promise more than what we think we can achieve.</p>	<p>1. He (Frank De Jong) has guts; he is running in Ernie Eves' riding. And he was nominated last spring... not recently in another attempt to delay the election. 2. He is smart... really smart. Check out his interview in the media portion from greenparty.on.ca He did great on his TVO interview. He did not spin-doctor, he provided real solutions. 3. The Liberals and NDP fear him. If the Green Party attends the leadership debate we will most likely win. 4. He believes in me.</p>
<p>5. Halton Hills residents often feel like the "forgotten sisters" in Halton. What specifically would you do to make sure concerns of Halton Hills residents are heard at Queen's Park?</p>	<p>That will be especially important in the next government. I'm from here, I raised my family in Halton Hills, I understand (Halton Hills residents') needs and I also understand how they haven't always received their fair share when it comes to dealing with the region. I fought hard for that over my eight-and-a-half years to ensure the regional chairman and regional council understand there is a community up here... It will be especially important in the next election because the redistribution takes Halton Hills out of the Halton riding, so whoever we elect better understand the needs of Halton Hills... Whichever riding I do go to I can ensure the voters of Halton Hills that I will continue to be their MPP right up to the next election and will fight hard for their wants and desires.</p>	<p>This is one area I really emphasize; ensuring the voices of all parts of the constituency are heard. That means not only doing my own research but calling on others to keep me informed. I don't like cocktail party meetings. I like to have formal meetings where people bring me material, we discuss issues, I can further research, follow up with questions, so I'm fully informed and then I know what to go back to Queen's Park with. Halton Hills is in many ways going through transition in terms of people coming from other places... so the development issues such as they can be solved provincially are certainly on the table... The maintenance of the agricultural community is certainly an important issue, that would certainly affect the Halton Hills area.</p>	<p>I would be locating probably more than one constituent office... I learned an effective way to hear what's going on is you spend a couple of hours Saturday morning at the arena, and you have a big sign up saying I'll be there every second Saturday... It's approachable, people don't have to travel, make an appointment... have a constituent office for formal stuff... (Provincial issues an MPP could help with)... I think the gridlock transportation issue... we are blessed with this thing called the Niagara Escarpment... (there is) the Niagara Escarpment Commission, who have a mandate, and have been trying to protect the Escarpment but more and more there are mining operations and development happening.</p>	<p>I think that the responsibilities of regional government should go to the municipalities. Municipal government is closer to the people and thus more accountable. The regional responsibilities that cannot be handled by the local government, should be handled by the provincial government (also elected and accountable). In this way we would avoid duplication of infrastructure, achieve better accountability, reduce costs and, as a by-product, we would not have to fight between levels of governments or, sometimes, against one more level of government.</p>	<p>I like Halton Hills, it is very beautiful. I will force the lawn to be drawn. Halton Hills must not be bulldozed. And to increase this, if elected, I will be promoting tourism throughout Halton. Remember, the Green Party is worldwide. And if I'm elected... it will enter Canadian history.</p>

Provincial hopefuls square off in first all-candidates meeting

Continued from pg. 1

In response to local environmentalist Ruth Kuchinad's question about environmental protection measures, each party would adopt, Chudleigh said, "clean water is a top priority in the PC party."

His comment set off roars of laughter from the crowd and prompted an admonishment from the Liberal Sullivan.

"People died (in Walkerton) because of the way the (Tories) treated water."

She said her party would implement all of the recommendations that came out of the inquiry into the tainted water supply.

The NDP's Jackson agreed that public money must be reinvested into our water quality systems.

Sneers toward Chudleigh also came forth when education issues were tackled.

His insistence that the education funding formula is "fair" did not

receive widespread audience agreement.

He also defended his party's plan to provide tax credits to private school supporters.

"It's difficult to paint a large group of people with one brush, we're making sure options are available. It adds strength to Ontario's diversity."

According to Jackson, the NDP plans to rescind the tax credit to parents of children in private schools as well as plans to give seniors similar relief on the education portion of their property tax.

Sullivan concurred as the Liberal platform also calls for the cancellation of both tax credits to seniors and private school supporters.

"Tax breaks should be given to those who need relief," she added.

As far as giving post secondary students a break on rising tuition fees, the Liberals intend to freeze rates over the next two years, said Sullivan.

The NDP takes the solution further promising to reduce fees by 10 per cent.

"When students can't afford to go to school, our future and theirs is put in jeopardy," said Jackson.

Chudleigh reported his party provided \$500 million in student loans and that his party led the charge in enticing private sector money into many col-

leges and universities.

Creating a healthy economic climate is the cornerstone of the PC election campaign. "A strong economy is good for everyone, including educational institutions, taxpayers, workers and business leaders," said Chudleigh.

—By Melanie Cummings, special

Election news and notes

The Independent & Free Press.

North Halton residents, with cable, will be able to watch a Halton provincial all-candidates debate airing on Cogeco 14 tomorrow night (Thursday) at 8 p.m. Viewers will have the opportunity to call in with questions for the candidates during a portion of the 90-minute program.

Look for coverage of yesterday's (Tuesday's) Milton Jaycees all-candidates meeting in the Friday edition of

Advance poll voting will be held at the Returning Office (360 Steeles Ave. E. in Milton until Friday, Sept. 26 between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. and at the following advance polls in Halton Hills.

- Acton Legion, 15, Wright St.
- St. John's United Church, 11 Guelph St. Georgetown
- St. Andrew's United Church, 89 Mountainview Rd. S., Georgetown