


# The Independent Weekend Edition & Free Press

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Provincial election candidates for Halton riding were front and centre at the Milton Leisure Centre Tuesday night for one of the many all-candidates meetings they have held this week. Candidates making their points at the meeting were, from left, Liberal Barbara Sullivan, New Democrat Jay Jackson and Progressive Conservative Ted Chudleigh. For more election coverage see pages 6, 12, 13 and 14. Photos by Ted Brown

## Provincial candidates grilled on a variety on topics

Education, auto insurance and what's being done for cancer patients were just some of the issues Halton Riding's provincial candidates tackled at an all-candidates meeting in Milton Tuesday evening.

All the candidates, except for Green Party representative Matt

Smith, were on hand for the Milton Jaycees-sponsored event, which drew an audience of about 100, mostly well-mannered, spectators.

After opening remarks, the audience had a chance to ask questions and one man asked Progressive Conservative candidate Ted Chudleigh if health

practitioners who work on soft tissue injuries and have had their fees cut by insurance companies were causing a drain on insurance company profits or if auto fraud was to blame.

"Certainly the cost of treating soft tissue injury is a major factor of increasing costs of auto insurance," said Chudleigh,

who added while personal injuries in accidents have declined by 10 per cent over the last 10 years, the costs to treat soft tissue injuries has jumped by 410 per cent.

He added his government recently announced its plans to cut insurance rates by 10 to 15 per cent.

Liberal candidate Barbara Sullivan criticized the PCs for taking so long to make a move to cut rates.

"There is no evidence of fraud by medical professionals and health professionals in the auto insurance system," added Sullivan.

Another audience member asked what the candidates did last evening.

Family Coalition Party candidate Giuseppe Gori, Sullivan

and Jackson all said they attended an education debate, but Chudleigh said he did not.

"I wasn't at the all-candidates meeting. I had a fund-raiser that had been planned for a long time," said Chudleigh, who added he informed the organizers and understood when they couldn't reschedule the event for one candidate.

A woman asked Chudleigh and Sullivan about priorities in education funding.

"We are committed to putting \$1.6 billion back into the education system, don't forget the Tories took that out," said Sullivan.

Chudleigh said their government's education policy has "created accountability in schools."

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