## Liberal Barbara Sullivan fails to upset Chudleigh

fall it a bittersweet evening for Barbara Sullivan.

While her Liberal party steamrolled its way into power last night, the former MPP could only carry part of that momentum into Halton Riding.

And that wasn't quite enough to thwart a three-peat for Tory

Ted Chudleigh.

Nevertheless, Sullivan characterized the competitive race as a moral victory for Halton Liberals - who unlike the previous two elections offered a legitimate threat to their PC counterparts.

Knowing that she was in for an uphill climb in a true blue riding, the Oakville resident seemed quite pleased about narrowing the gap from 1999.

"We certainly went in as the underdog, and we were able to reduce the margin significantly," said Sullivan, upon arrival at Dicken's Restaurant jam-packed with well-wishers and party faithfuls.

"We started out with a small campaign team, but were a formidable force. I think we put the PCs on notice in this riding."

Last night's party headquarters were brimming with satisfaction over the Liberals' allaround triumph. But while Dicken's visitors grew, hopes for a change of power locally gradually waned.

While putting a positive spin on incoming figures, Halton Liberal media relations director Lawson Hunter recognized the inevitable shortly after 9 p.m. at which point a Chudleigh win was a pretty safe bet.

He said, "I think you have to look at where we've come from in the riding. It (closed ranked) indicates the trend right across

the province.

Beyond making things a lot more interesting this time around, Sullivan stressed that the 2003 election — both locally and across Ontario — provided people a real choice.

As for whether she'll be back to provide herself as an option four years from now, last night's runner-up gave a non-committal smile and stated, "I guess we'll just have to see. A lot can happen in that time."

-By Steve LeBlanc, special



Liberal candidate Barbara Sullivan dropped by Chudleigh's victory party at Hornby Glen Golf Course to congratulate Ted Chudleigh on his win and concede defeat in the Photo by Ted Brown Halton riding.

## Chudleigh promises to work with new government

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"I was disappointed with the negative campaigning in the first two weeks of the campaign," Chudleigh said. "Eight and a half years of growth, prosperity, and one million new jobs, that's a terrific record to run on and we had a strong platform. "We didn't spend our time promoting that, we spent our time attacking the opposition."

That style of campaigning, Chudleigh said,

wasn't part of his electioneering. He said he stuck to the issues.

As a member of the opposition party, Chudleigh promised he wouldn't be a disruptive politician simply because he's part of the opposition. For Ontario to grow, he said, there has to be co-operation.

"I think I will assist the government when they're going in the right direction and oppose the government when they're going in the

wrong direction."

He warned the Liberal platform could see jobs lost in the province and high taxes risk choking taxpayers.

Winning by a slim margin, Chudleigh said he realizes he has a few voters in Halton to win over. "People just weren't interested in our platform or don't agree with it, so the communication process has to go on," he said.

—By Jason Misner, special

NDP candidate Jay Jackson enjoyed seeing the party's election signage become a reality as he gathered with campaign workers and supporters at his campaign headquarters in Milton Thursday night.

Photo by Ted Brown

Jackson happy with NDP campaign in Halton espite the fact the NDP failed to win party status Thursday night, Halton NDP candidate Jay Jackson was pleased with the local results— which saw him pick up substantially more votes in Halton than

he did in 1999. Jackson garnered 5,588 votes Thursday, or 8 per cent of the vote in Halton compared to 2,833, or 5.1 per cent in the last provincial election.

"We had a wonderful enthusiastic campaign here in Halton— excellent workers," said Jackson, from his Milton campaign office where several NDP supporters gathered to watch the election results come in.

"We're excited. We had a fantastic response at the doorstep. People wanted to see change," said Jackson, a Halton Hills resident.

Throughout the campaign he said it was very clear people were unhappy

with the Tories "so we knew there was an opportunity to bring people on board."

Jackson was disappointed by the drop in the number of seats the party

earned across the province, and the fact it lost its party status, but he believes it was because voters wanted to be clear "to oust the Tories."

—By Lisa Tallyn, staff writer

## Green and FCP candidates happy with showing

Although they finished in fourth and fifth place respectively both the Halton Green Party and Family Coalition Party (FCP) candidates were pleased with their results.

Matt Smith, the 19-year-old Oakville resident who represented the Green Party in Halton, was happy to see support for his party grow from 806 votes (or 1.4 percent of the vote) in 1999 to 1,295 votes or (1.9 per cent).

"I feel pretty good for running a campaign without a single sign on the road," said Smith. He added he is also a student and ran the campaign on his own, Giuseppe Gori of the Family Coalition Party (FCP) was pleased with his party's showing in Halton, and right across the province.

"The important thing is we had more candidates and we had more votes," said Gori, the party's Halton candidate and leader of the FCP of Ontario. "The important thing for us is to grow."

Gori earned 1,124 votes, or 1.6 per cent of the vote in Halton Thursday compared to 755 votes or 1.38 per cent in 1999.





