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Bentley has 'no regrets' despite lopsided defeat

Continued from pg. 11

"I got a lot of support," said the retired GDHS teacher. "A lot of people volunteered and worked (on the campaign). I have no regrets."

One of the biggest challenges she faced in the campaign she said was, "it's a big riding and I was not really known."

She called her experience as a candidate "positive," and at this point doesn't know if she will run again.

Green Party candidate Lavictoire was "excited and happy" with his results and his party's showing across the province.

"Ten per cent (of popular vote) was my goal and I also wanted to be a top 10 riding in Ontario," said Lavictoire.

He believes climate change is causing more Ontarians to vote Green.

"There was a lot of protest votes out there," said NDP candidate



Newly-elected Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott toasts his victory Wednesday with wife Lisa and campaign manager Lance Bryant.

Photo by Ted Brown

Duignan, who had hoped for better results.

"Their (the Green Party) economic policies are very libertarian and a lot of the protest went to that party," said Duignan.

Family Coalition Party leader Gori said he, "didn't expect to win or get to 15 per cent (of the vote)" but was also

hoping to garner more support.

"Depending on the mood I could have had anywhere between 1 to 10 per cent," said Gori.

Voter turnout in Wellington-Halton Hills was slightly higher than the provincial average at 58.1 per cent, while Ontario-wide, turnout was 52.7 per cent.

Panel member 'not surprised' at MMP's failure

LISA TALLYN
Staff Writer

In line with the trend across Ontario, Wellington-Halton Hills voters overwhelmingly rejected a move to a new electoral system Wednesday.

Unofficial results in Halton Hills showed 66 per cent of voters supported the existing first-past-the-post system, while only 34 per cent voted in favour of the Mixed Member Proportional (MMP) system proposed by the Citizen's Assembly on Electoral Reform.

Ontario-wide, there was a little more support for MMP, with nearly 37

per cent of voters favouring that option, compared to 63 per cent who put their votes behind first-past-the-post.

Georgetown resident John Daley, a member of the Citizen's Assembly on Electoral Reform, was disappointed with the outcome of the referendum, "from the standpoint of lack of information fed to the general public through Elections Ontario."

"They didn't have information to assimilate what it was they were voting for," said Daley, who added Elections Ontario should have launched its pre-vote education program on the referendum much sooner.

"The real reason there was little support for MMP is simply lack of understanding and that can be blamed on ineffective, often obscure, or better yet, useless marketing to get the message out about MMP," said Daley.

He added, however, we wasn't surprised the proposed system didn't pass because "of the very high yardstick—that 60 per cent (support required)."

"We questioned that right from the very beginning," he said.

For the new system to pass it needed approval by 60 per cent of those casting ballots and majority approval in at least 64 ridings—MMP only achieved that level in five ridings.

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