

Fran Baines wants riding on government's side

It is one of the practical realities of politics that a member of the party in power can do more for a riding than a member sitting in opposition, says Fran Baines, Progressive Conservative candidate for Halton-Burlington.

She made the statement when asked why voters should support her as opposed to Liberal Julian Reed or NDP Chris Cutler. Baines said this area needs to be represented on the government side of the House.

She made it clear she is proud to be PC candidate and stated she can defend her party's platform.

Baines admitted many complaints about regional government are heard as she knocks on thousands of doors across the riding. She said the problem is not with regional government itself but with the system of administration. She argued the necessary changes should come from within Halton not from the provincial government. She maintained the provincial government had been cast in the role of the

heavy, and said she much preferred amendments to Bill 151, that set up the region, be made from within the municipality.

Noting that no one asked her about the nomination which resulted in a Supreme Court case, Baines said she never could quite understand it since the rules and regulations were set down in the constitution in 1975. She emphasized she was subject to the same rules, and said some of her supporters too were ineligible to vote because they obtained memberships after the deadline.

Commenting on market value assessment which she said only a few people mentioned to her, the PC candidate said it is up to the municipality to implement it if they wish. She said she was fairly sure a lot of homes are under-assessed and have been for a long time. "But the newer homes are paying a heavier share," she admitted nobody is ever going to admit they are paying too little in taxes. "It's a no win situation." She emphasized there is a right of appeal and noted

it is like any other system, it is not perfect.

She backed Davis's stand on energy, saying electricity is a resource available in Ontario, so the province can be less dependent on anyone else. "Nuclear energy frightens some people because of Three Mile Island and the movie the 'China Syndrome', but our Candu system is considered the safest in the world."

She confessed nuclear waste disposal is still a concern but forecast the technology of the future would overcome it. She saw higher energy prices as necessary but agreed with Davis's stand that there be a differential between world and domestic prices.

On her door to door travels, Baines encountered bread and butter issues as the main concern. She said the cost of housing and high interest rates were frequently discussed.

"As far as interest rates go, there is nothing we can do, since we are tied to the whole North American economy. A

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strong voice in the Ministers' conference could be our only weapon." On the cost of housing, she said the law of supply and demand seems to control that. She said incentives for rental housing have been announced by the Ministry of Housing.

Switching to food costs, Baines said she liked to talk about the BILD program. (the Board of Industrial Leadership Development). She said it contains a plan to upgrade food storage, through incentives for individual farmers and cooperatives to build more storage areas so home-grown produce can be kept for longer times. In addition incentives have been offered to farmers to increase productivity through higher tile drainage grants.

Baines noted Ontario produces 56 per cent of all

the food produced in Canada, and said one of the BILD program's aims is to increase Ontario's food processing capabilities. She maintained Ontario grows more food, almost by half, than any other province in Canada.

She said she is interested in the research now being done on the cost savings of heating greenhouses with nuclear waste as is now being done at the Bruce generating station. She predicted an interesting outgrowth from that experiment.

On day-care the Tory candidate said two out of three day care places in Canada are in Ontario, a province that has done more in terms of day care than any other. She admitted Ontario is far behind Europe, but said the amount of money directed to day care this

year has substantially increased.

"Part of the problem with our changing society is the pie is only so big and the increases in spending have all been in social welfare, not roads and other hard services. She predicted more and more businesses themselves would offer day care on their own premises.

Asked about her role as a woman candidate, Baines said she doesn't think of herself as a woman candidate, just as a candidate. "I'm a person who happens to be a woman." But she admitted some issues can be seen from a different viewpoint by a woman.

She said a woman who has stayed home, raised children and been involved in the educational system, sees things differently from a man. She insisted neither a man nor a woman is there to look at issues only affecting their own sex. "I'll be part of the whole system." She said no one has raised the question of a woman candidate as she goes from door to door.



Fran Baines

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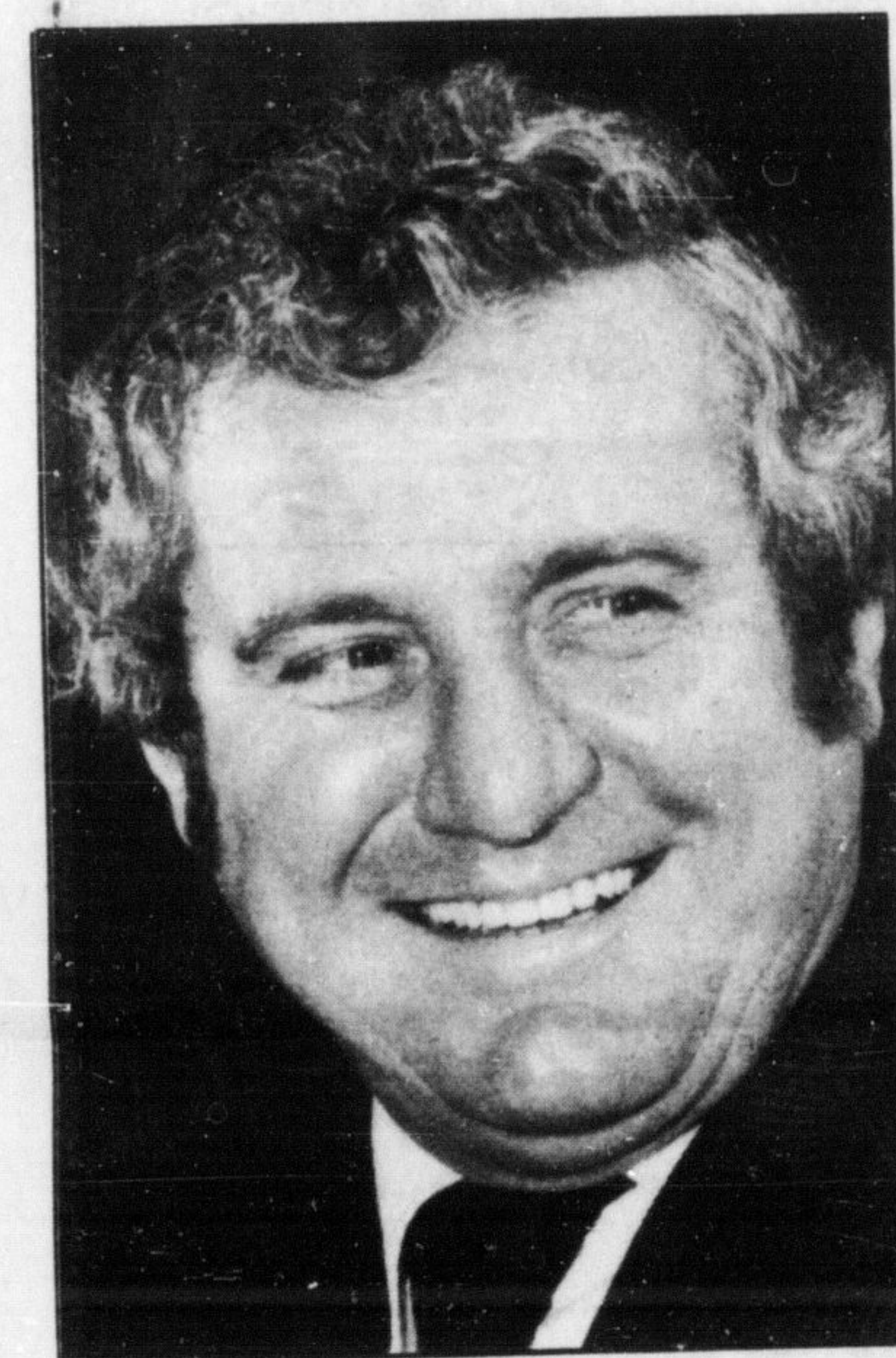
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Liberal Reed

Ontario needs own energy



Julian Reed

Energy is Julian Reed's pet topic. He's been energy critic for the Ontario Liberals for the past four years. As incumbent for Halton-Burlington, Reed has many plans to conserve energy and reduce costs.

"Energy represents perhaps the largest single economic opportunity of any specific potential. Last year we spent \$7 1/2 billion for energy brought into this province from outside... there's no reason why Ontario can't be providing a large portion of that energy from inside the province," says Reed.

In order to replace as much as 60 per cent of imported energy by the year 2000 the Liberal party would initiate a wide ranging program of energy efficiency, conservation, and development of alternative fuels. Plans include alcohol fuel development, incentives to solar manufacturers, development of farm energy (methane, wind, vegetable oil fuels) recycling forestry waste

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and investigation of peat resources.

"The cheapest form of energy we have is conservation," Reed states.

To stimulate conservation the Grits plan changes in building codes, removal of bureaucratic obstacles to new energy development and consumer opportunities through low interest loans and tax credits.

"If we were to properly insulate all our homes we would pick up the equivalent of all of the nuclear power now installed in Ontario," Reed comments adding the cost of insulating is only half the cost of a new nuclear plant.

Liberal energy policy involves investment of \$4 billion by the year 2000 and is largely self-funding through efficiency raising and reduction in the amount of money spent, according to Reed.

On regional government Reed says it's increasingly evident "we have a huge white elephant on our hands".

He accuses the Tories of not wanting to lose face and not having the leadership to admit they were wrong on regional government.

"Of course it was a mistake," he states.

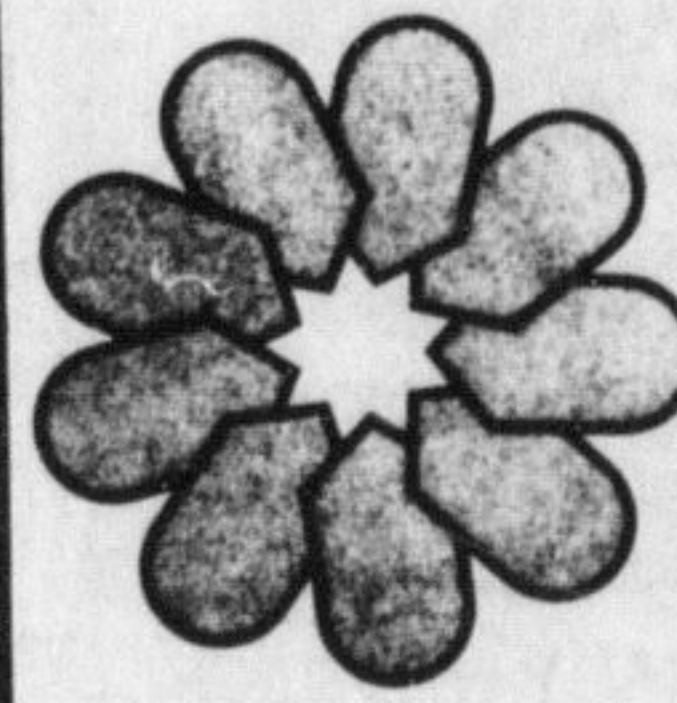
Liberals will review

reform, but does not believe market value assessment serves his riding. With such a diversity of land problems in Halton-Burlington land tax issues have to be carefully weighed, he thinks.

"I'm in favor of tax reform in principle, but we can't do it by abandoning those people who are going to be hit hard. There's got to be some sort of built-in cushioning device," he says.

Another of Reed's pet peeves is "government by crisis". He says government has been handling major issues with "one huge heavy handed move" which has often proved unwise. He cites the example of citizens spending \$120,000 to fight the Milton dump issue.

HAPPY NEW YEAR



The first day of spring conjures up images of renewal, rebirth and new beginnings. These are some of the reasons that Baha's celebrate New Year on March 21st.

From the cycles of nature the Baha' Faith draws a parallel to the history of religion. Each of the world's religions has gone through the same four stages of spring, summer, fall and winter. Each experiences the youthful vigor of spring when its Founder appears in the world, the intensity of summer during its most creative period, the fall, when it yields its harvest and the fullness of its achievement; then, inevitably, it slips into winter, when like a tree its leaves fall, it stands silent, awaiting the return of spring.

With the coming of Baha'ullah, Founder of the Baha' Faith, the religion of God has been renewed once more, this time to culminate in the zenith of its achievement — the unification of the entire human race in one common faith.

The Baha' Community of Milton wishes each and everyone a happy and healthy new season.

Transport board gives Tyler the green light

Ted Tyler's buses will soon be steering for destinations beyond the province's borders following decisions by the Ontario Highway Transport Board.

"We got everything we asked for," said Ted Tyler after receiving word last week of the board's decisions.

In short the board is allowing Tyler Transport to extend its service area, plus try some markets for passenger service to McDermott-Douglas and the airport.

Tyler's received certificates, one step short of licences, with the board's March 6 decision. Some minor steps have to be taken in order to receive the licences.

Time is needed to get rates and also to secure complementary authority from other provinces and states, according to Tyler. Then the licence came.

On the run to the airport from Acton, George-

town and Milton there is what Tyler describes as an escape clause. He can get out of the licence in three years. "If you can't do it in three years, you may as well give up," said Tyler.

He also said he believes the board was fair. He is happy with the results and the witnesses. Tyler produced a number of witnesses to support his cause during the board's hearing on January 13.

The board's decision does not disturb the existing situation between Tyler and his chief competitor for the Rockwood population and the Guelph bingo games.

Denny Bus Lines Ltd. has a licence for the Rockwood market. Tyler's, though, have for some time picked up clients wishing to go to the Guelph bingo games.

"Such a pick-up would have no monetary impact, since, as indicated above, the operator of the

games charters the Denny bus for a fixed sum," states the board's reasons for the decision.

Tyler's "will be authorized to pick up passengers at Rockwood enroute to bingo games in Guelph or Mississauga," states the report.

The board set a limit of 60 pounds per parcel and a 200 pound maximum per shipment on express freight.

The board also was willing to permit Tyler to test the market on the operation of charter trips and per capita fare tours interprovincially and internationally.

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