

Malboeuf says:

Reform will run conservative agenda

• from MALBOEUF on page 7
built up their profile and will contest seats across Canada.

He dismissed poll results which suggest Reform support is low. He said polls gave Reform only seven per cent of the vote before the 1993 election, in which they received 23 per cent.

Mr. Malboeuf acknowledged that the policy of advertising for candidates seems an act of desperation to an outsider but he claimed it is designed to bring new people into the political process. He said he originally answered an advertisement to see how far along the party would allow him to go.

He pointed to the candidacy of Brian Esch, a political neophyte who gravitated to the religious right, as an example of the open process.

"The Brian Esch thing proved anyone can get involved," Mr. Malboeuf said.

"It also proved that the radical right wing doesn't control the party. He only received

10 votes out of 166."

Mr. Malboeuf said there are plans to bring Reform Party leader Preston Manning to Milton during the campaign, however details are not yet firm. Liberal Finance Minister Paul Martin and PC leader Jean Charest have both made appearances locally.

"I could say the other two candidates need the help," said Mr. Malboeuf.

"I don't think we need the photo op. The party decides where Mr. Manning will go based on which ridings need the boost and on his travel schedule."

He said crime and justice, taxation and jobs are the main issues in the election.

According to Mr. Malboeuf, a Milton small business operator, many of Canada's largest companies said they will likely reduce staff this year.

"That's why we're having an early election," he said.

"Unemployment and interest rates will climb and overall economic numbers will

not be so favourable in the next six-10 months."

Mr. Malboeuf said political credibility is another issue.

He said both Tories and Liberals cannot defend a string of broken promises including ones on; tax increases, cuts to health care, the GST, NAFTA and a national day care program.

"Does the fact that I have no political experience hurt me, or is it more in my favour?" asked Mr. Malboeuf.

"We need fewer politicians in Ottawa and more people with common sense."

Mr. Malboeuf could not resist taking a shot at the generous MP pension plan in which Reform Party members have declined participation.

He compared it to recent changes to the Canada Pension Plan which require Canadians to pay higher contributions and receive lower retirement benefits.

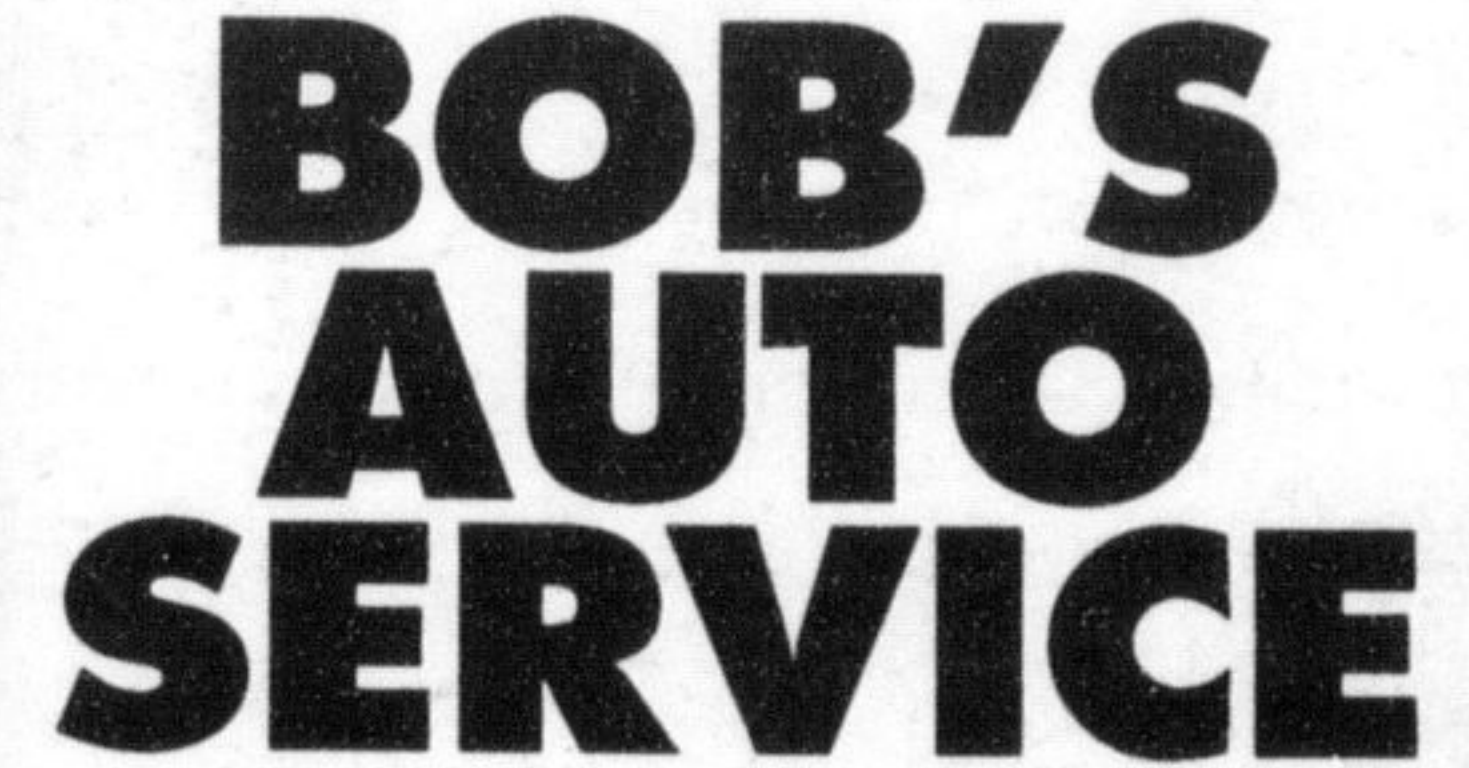
"We would bring the MP pension plan more in line with private plans," he said.

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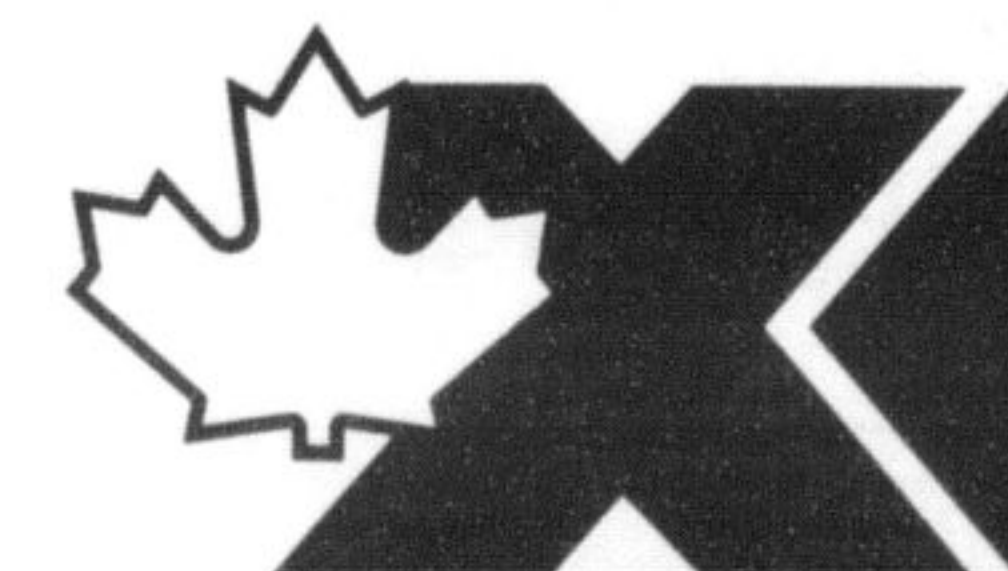
If you can't vote on election day, Monday, June 2, you may vote at the advance polls. The advance polls will be open on Friday, May 23, Saturday, May 24, and Monday, May 26, from noon to 8:00 p.m. See your Confirmation of Registration notice for the address where you can vote. If your name is not yet on the voters list, you can still register and vote at the advance polls or on polling day. Remember to bring identification that shows your name, address and signature.

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