

# Jackson believes people could use NDP compassion

By IRENE GENTLE

*The Champion*

No, honest, it's different this time.

That could become the mantra of NDP candidate Jay Jackson after signing on to take part in a three-way dogfight for the title of Halton North MPP.

After all, it is tough when the party you represent has been linked in some people's minds with the devastating recession of the late 1980's and early '90's.

"They happened to have the luck of the draw to be elected in the midst of the worst economic times since the dirty thirties," said Mr. Jackson, a little ruefully. "Really, this is the new NDP."

Today, selling the concept of a new party to folks who still utter the words 'social contract' as an epithet is Mr. Jackson's mission.

The 47-year-old father of two first cut his teeth in politics by running federally.

While that bid didn't succeed, it got his name out. When little whispers began circulating about a possible provincial spring election, the powers that be started calling.

"I was asked to put my hat back in the ring again," he said.

So he did.

Today, the Sheridan College photo technologist is preparing for his campaign by busily listening to the word on the street. It sounds positive, he said.

"A huge amount of education workers of all strata are talking collectively," he said. "They're talking to other people. They've been hurt by Mike Harris' agenda."

There's not much satisfaction in Grit promises, either, said Mr. Jackson.

"The Liberal agenda doesn't provide anything," he said. "They tend to waffle around."

A return of the NDP would mean a restoration of compassion in politics that has been absent since Mike Harris took over the reins, said Mr. Jackson.

"His agenda has been to move with one fell swoop of the pen," he said.

In Mr. Jackson's opinion, that pen is swooping in all the wrong directions.

"What are we doing about people dying in the streets?" he asked. "What are we doing about our children not being able to have access to our post-secondary education because of spiraling tuition costs?"

With the NDP in the drivers' seat, all that could change, he promised.

"Clearly the aim would be to put back some of the damage that has been done," he said.

Resuscitating health care is one priority.

"We see people being shipped to the States or put on an airplane to try and find a place," he said. "We'd put back the dollars and redistribute it to health care."

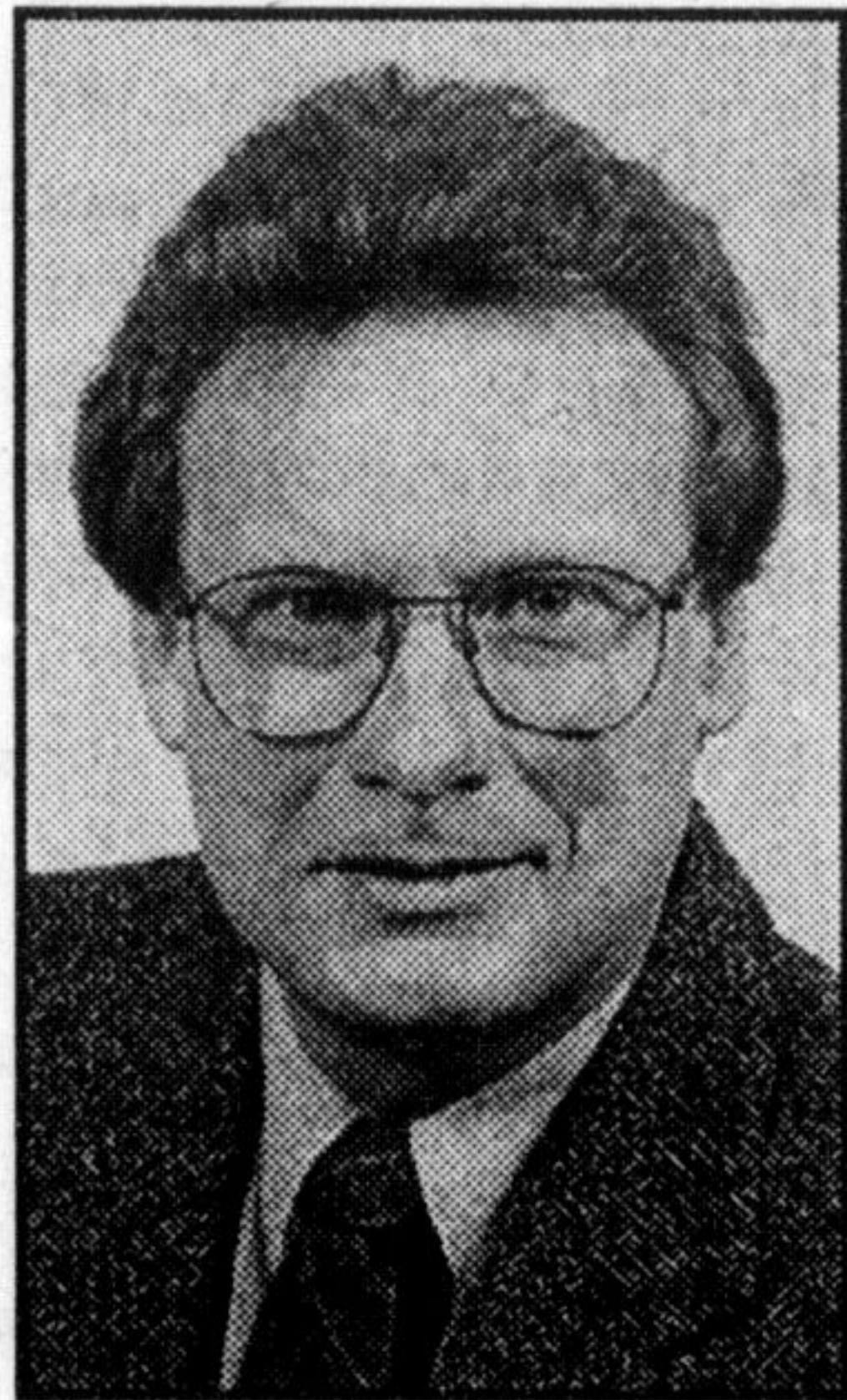
The dollars would come from repealing a Mike Harris income tax cut handed to people with taxable incomes of more than \$80,000.

That would net the government \$1.5 billion, said Mr. Jackson.

Stopping for-profit health and home care would eat up \$250 million of that. Ensuring attention within 15 minutes in emergency cases at hospitals would swallow another \$375 million.

Decreasing tuition fees by 10 per cent, eliminating Bill 160 and protecting junior kindergarten would take another \$540 million bite out of the budget.

Restoring rent control, building new affordable housing, beefing up worker protection laws and cracking down on polluters would take care of the rest of the money.



Jay Jackson

## PUBLIC NOTICE REGION OF HALTON INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT DUNDAS STREET (REGIONAL ROAD No. 5) AND BRONTE ROAD (REGIONAL ROAD No. 25) TOWN OF OAKVILLE PR-1800

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Sections 297 and 300 of The Municipal Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter M.45 as amended, that the Council for the Regional Municipality of Halton proposes at its meeting on Wednesday, April 21, 1999 at 9:30 am to pass a by-law for the intersection improvements at Dundas Street (Regional Road #5) and Bronte Road (Regional Road #25), in the form of lane extensions for the southbound through/right-turn and left turn lanes on Bronte Road approaching Dundas Street and the extension of the existing southbound merge lane and taper on Bronte Road south of Dundas Street, Town of Oakville.

Plans showing the proposed work may be inspected at the Planning & Public Works Department, Halton Regional Centre, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville.

On Wednesday, April 14, 1999 at 9:30 am in the Halton Room at the Halton Regional Centre, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville, Ontario, Council through its Planning and Public Works Committee will hear in person, or by his/her Counsel, any person who claims that his/her lands will be prejudicially affected by the said by-law and who applies to the Regional Clerk no later than April 5, 1999 to be heard.

For further information, please contact:

**Mr. Joseph Choi, P. Eng**  
Manager of Design Services  
Region of Halton

1151 Bronte Road, Oakville ON

Telephone: Burlington/Milton/Oakville, call 825-6030, extension 7610

Aldershot residents call (905) 639-4540

www.region.halton.on.ca

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