



COMMENT

Voters are faced with tough choice to make

Just under a week to go, and the November 27 federal election is getting hot enough to melt the season's first snowfall.

Locally, Halton Riding candidates are articulate, informed and seemingly ready to roll up their sleeves and get to work.

But the stakes are high, with the direction of the country in the offing. If each party sticks to its platform, voters will be asked to choose between reducing big government (Canadian Alliance) or maintaining a strong federalist body (virtually everyone else).

They'll have to choose between socking money into social programs (NDP, and to some extent PC and Liberals) or reducing taxes (everyone but the NDP).

Voters will also be asked to gauge the trustworthiness of a government they don't know (CA, Green Party and Federal NDP) or one they have known (the others).

Healthcare funding, debt reduction and justice are other hot topics for voters to consider before heading off to the polls.

With ongoing proof south of the border that every vote counts, residents have some tough choices to make.

But no one said being a responsible citizen was easy.



OUR READERS WRITE

Reader disappointed with photo of two women bottle-feeding babies

Dear Editor:

I was disappointed with the larger of two photographs published with the article of Tuesday, Oct. 31 'Milton District High gives students a leg up' regarding the Public Support Worker Program at Milton District High School.

The photo showed two young women bottle-feeding model infants.

Public health nurses, naturopathic doctors, midwives, medical doctors and other health professionals, as well as hospital maternity units, promote breast-

feeding as the optimal feeding method for babies.

This is in accordance with the World Health Organization (W.H.O.) Code.

The nutritional benefits of breastfeeding are recognized as superior to those of using infant formulas.

I wish The Champion had used a different scenario for its illustration of the Public Support Worker Program at Milton District High School.

Erika Ristok
Naturopathic doctor

These dinosaurs don't understand youth

Dear Editor:

The all-candidates meeting held at the Muddy Duck Banquet Hall Wednesday proved rather interesting.

Julian Reed waffling with the political statements and rhetoric to avoid the meat of questions is obviously a chip off the old block (Prime Minister Jean Chretien). His comment that the Liberals have amended the Young Offenders Act four times leaves one wondering how many more kicks at the cat they will require to get it (and many other things) right.

Joe Clark accused Stockwell Day of auditioning for a job as a talk show host while his Milton representative Tom Kilmer is obviously auditioning for a job as a stand-up comic — using Mr. Reed as his straight man. Abbott and Costello in reverse?

Tim Dobson (Canadian Alliance), Brenda Dolling (NDP) and Tom Adams (Green Party) all came across professionally, avoid-

ing the old school politicking Mr. Reed and Mr. Kilmer were trying desperately to introduce to the meeting.

Although the Canadian Alliance Party scared the Liberals into this election, they still lack voter confidence in eastern Canada.

The NDP philosophy leans heavily toward two-dimensional thinking as opposed to the multi-dimensional thinking required to govern effectively.

The Green Party? Well, with all due respect to a very effective Tom Adams, I'm not sure if the party plans to govern from the buildings on Parliament Hill or from the front of a Kodiak with a 50HP Merc on the back.

Youth are the trustees of our future and we desperately need youth in politics.

The dinosaurs (Chretien, Clark and McDonough) will not attract youth as they don't understand that the youth of today want to initiate and participate and contribute.

They want responsibility and accountability. They don't want to be told they don't have the experience so shut-up and sit down and this is what you say when I pull your string.

Contrary to dinosaur thinking, the youth of today are much more aware, knowledgeable, intelligent and compassionate than the dinosaurs give them credit for.

The November 27 election kicks off the new millennium. The definition of insanity is doing the same thing expecting different results. What we do in this election is the legacy we leave behind for future generations.

Do we kick off a brand new game or simply leave a second-half kick-off, down several touchdowns?

Vote your conscience, but vote. Your vote does count (look at Florida) and future generations are counting on us.

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The Canadian Champion, published every Tuesday and Friday at 191 Main St. E., Milton, Ont., L9T 4N9 (Box 248), is one of The Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing Ltd. group of suburban companies which includes: Ajax/Pickering News Advertiser, Alliston Herald/Courier, Barrie Advance, Barry's Bay This Week, Bolton Enterprise, Brampton Guardian, Burlington Post, Burlington Shopping News, City Parent, City of York Guardian, Collingwood/Wasaga Connection, East York Mirror, Erin Advocate/Country Routes, Etobicoke Guardian, Flamborough Post, Forever Young, Georgetown Independent/Acton Free Press, Huronia Business Times, Kingston This Week, Lindsay This Week, Markham Economist & Sun, Midland/Penetanguishene Mirror, Milton Shopping News, Mississauga Business Times, Mississauga News, Napanee Guide, Nassagaweya News, Newmarket/Aurora Era-Banner, Northumberland News, North York Mirror, Oakville Beaver, Oakville Shopping News, Oldtimers Hockey News, Orillia Today, Oshawa/Whitby/Clarington/Port Perry This Week, Owen Sound Tribune, Peterborough This Week, Pictou County Guide, Richmond Hill/Thornhill/Vaughan Liberal, Scarborough Mirror, Stouffville/Uxbridge Tribune.

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by Steve Nease