Ward 2 Goungilon (2 to be elected)

Art Melanson, incumbent

Art Melanson, a resident of Milton for more than 50 years, is a men's clothing consultant.

From 1970 to 1990, he owned and operated Knight's Mens Wear on Main Street.

Why are you running?

I am running to continue my lifetime of community involvement in the Town of Milton since my arrival here from Cape Breton back in 1947. Having spent 42 years on Main Street at Knight's Mens Wear, I realized what a great town I chose to live in and raise a family. With major growth happening in Milton, I want to be involved in decisions on issues affecting Milton, its growth and lifestyle.

What are the local issues?

Certainly with unprecedented growth many important issues arise.

- A. The key issues facing council are the completion of the library and the arts and cultural centre and Town Hall expansion.
- B. Partnership with the Region of Halton regarding the Transportation Master Plan study for Halton.
- C. To preserve and encourage more retailers into the Central Business District and make downtown accessible for people with disabilities.

How will you address them?

- A. Due to the growth-related project I will ask staff to seek some alternative funding. I will also work with the arts and cultural committee with their fundraising projects. I will ask staff to conduct a full review of this project and move it ahead.
- B. I will be involved in the Halton Master Plan for transit so that the Town of Milton can provide a transit system to meet the needs of the residents of Milton.
- C. With the reconstruction of Main Street East (Main to Ontario streets) slated for 2004, Milton will have one of the finest main streets in Ontario. The Milton Downtown Business Improvement Area and economic development will encourage new business to locate in the Central Business District.

Colin Best, 46, a life-long resident of Milton and a long-time property appraiser, founded Best Appraisals in March, 1994 for residential and rural appraisal services in Halton, Peel, west Toronto and Hamilton.

He served as a town councillor from 1980 to 1994 and regional councillor from 1994 to 1997. His long list of committee and community involvement includes chair of the Halton Regional Solid Waste Management Committee (1994-97), chair of Milton L.A.C.A.C. (1991-94) and founding member of the Milton United Way (1982).

Over the last three years he has been involved with the Martin St. Parents Council, Milton Chamber of Commerce, R.A.I.L. and other groups.

Why are you running?

Because I believe that I have the experience, ability and knowledge as a former councillor and involved citizen in many organizations to help lead Milton into the future. As a resident of both urban and rural areas I have a perspective of the challenges both areas face in the growth of our community. I believe a local councillor should inform and involve residents in the future plans of the area, and I believe that I have the initiative to serve and find solutions to the challenges that Milton is facing.

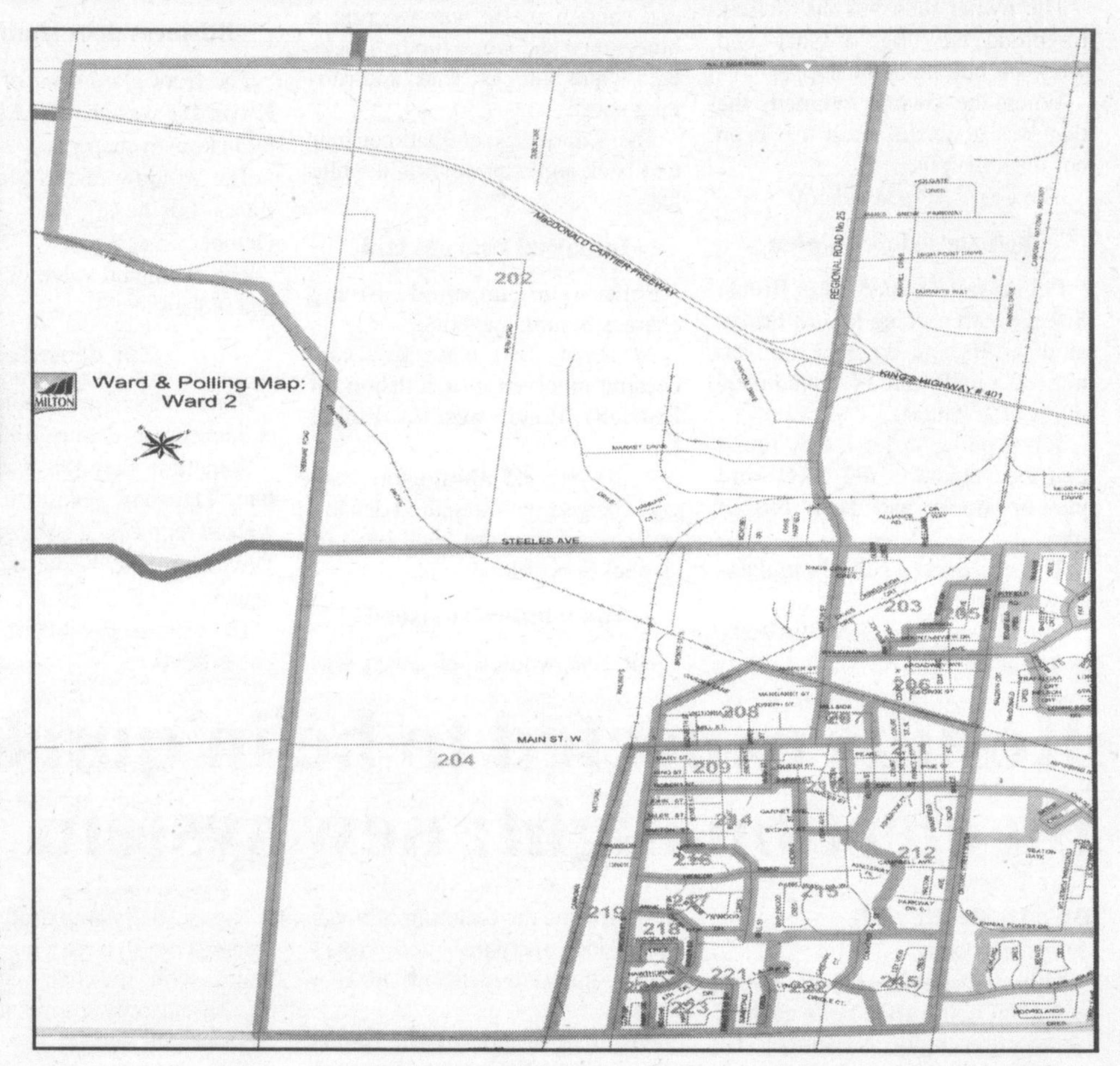
What are the local issues?

Through active membership in local organizations and canvassing many residents I found that the biggest concerns people have are residential growth with the lack of planning, transit, services and schools to meet those needs. The lack of enforcement of Town bylaws, parking and information of what is happening to the town.

How will you address them?

By co-ordinating growth through Town departments and other agencies so the needed services, facilities and transportation improvements are built with a minimum of borrowing. By having a review of Town bylaws, enforcement and service delivery to find and implement policies on who is the best deliverer of those services. Also by having the Town change the way it informs residents on planning and other matters through the use of newsletters similar to Oakville and Burlington so residents can understand the changes Milton is going through and be involved in the process before decisions are made, not after.





Mike Boughton

Mike Boughton, 58, has owned Mike's Barber Shop on Main Street for 33 years.

A resident of Milton since 1955, he's been chair of the Golfing 4 Cancer fundraising golf tournament for the last 10 years.

He was named 2000 Citizen of the Year and 1995 Business Person of the Year.

Why are you running?

Milton is experiencing rapid growth and decisions have to be made that are to the benefit of all people in this community — both the newly-arrived and the originals who founded this great town. I see these people and talk with them every day and it's this — the people of Milton have truly been good to me and my family and I want to give something back. It's also a time in my life where I am fortunate to be able to devote both the time and resources required to do a good job for us all.

What are the local issues?

Why have washrooms and Town facilities and parks if you can't use them? All sports and recreation facilities need to be maintained at a level of which we can be proud. The downtown core always needs to be kept clear of snow and garbage, so that young mothers with children and seniors can all move about freely. All Miltonians need a public transit system and a co-ordinated, flexible and prudent parking plan. Milton needs an arts and leisure centre and it's time for revenue from Mohawk slots to address more than just sports. I believe affordable seniors' housing requires a better strategy for the future.

How will you address them?

I will establish myself as a watchdog for responsible fiscal management and development. There is only one taxpayer and I know that. I am accessible. Whether it's through my customers or my involvement in many activities, people know with whom they can talk. In fact, it's these associations and friendships that have asked me to run for office. They've known my track record and operating style with baseball and Golfing 4 Cancer for years. I am both a listener and, I believe because of that, a leader as well. I will ask the tough questions. I need your vote to go to work for you.

