

# I Like Mike

COUNCILLOR WARD 2

VOTE

BOUGHTON, Mike



Authorized by the CFO for Mike Boughton 905-876-6400

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## Intermodal terminal, transit among top issues in Ward 4

By JASON MISNER

The Champion

Familiar questions about the potential CN intermodal facility and transit were sprinkled in between new questions about debt and how to lobby other levels of government to get Milton issues on the front burner at Monday night's Ward 4 all-candidates meetings.

More than 100 people attended the meeting at Milton District High School to hear nine candidates — seven for town and two for town and regional councillor seats — explain why they're the best choice on election day.

There are two town seats and one town and regional councillor seat available.

The town councillor candidates are incumbent John Challinor as well as Wayne Casson, Todd Corradetti, Don Gordon, Del Oxford, Wendy Schau and Darlene Wasilkowsky.

The town and regional councillor hopefuls are Ron Furik and Bill MacKinnon.

Following an opening statement from each candidate, questions were fielded from the crowd. The first was about the CN intermodal facility — an issue that has been up for discussion in the Wards 1 and 2 meetings held last week.

A resident asked the candidates if they're "ready to fight" the massive facility to be located south of

town.

Like the candidates from the previous ward meetings, none of the ward 4 candidates wanted to see it open. Mr. Corradetti said, "I'm definitely not for it."

"I, for one, will not stand for major truck traffic through our town streets," he said. "There are enough trucks on the road."

Mr. Oxford, like others, said the facility, if it's ever to open, should be relocated north of town.

"That's where the rail line goes."

Said Mr. Challinor: "I've been opposed to this facility since day one. I'm not supporting anything that is south of the (Hwy.) 401. I'm confident we will find a solution."

A question about transit, or a lack thereof, was raised. "It's a big component of a healthy community," said Ms Schau.

She said there are 317 disabled people in Milton and some are having to rely on family to get around town.

Ms Wasilkowsky said a good transit system will attract riders.

"Why can't we go and find out how Guelph did it?" she asked, noting it has a bus system. "I wouldn't ride the system we have now. I can walk there quicker."

Mr. Casson said people have told him they want to hold the line on taxes, but if everyone agrees we need buses, "and our taxes go up a bit, let's do it."

When asked about getting provincial and federal politicians to understand Milton issues, Mr. Gordon said organizing a town meeting involving those politicians and residents would be a first step.

"They need to hear from you, the voters."

Debt and how candidates would control it was posed to all. Some responses included using revenues from Mohawk Racetrack slots to keep debt down.

Edison Court resident Bernie Gillis said part of the reason he turned out at the meeting was to hear the issues. He went to the mayoral candidates meeting last month, but because they had to share the stage with school trustee and regional chair candidates, he felt he didn't hear enough of the local political issues.

"This meeting was very good. I heard a wide range of topics," Mr. Gillis said, noting traffic is big on his list of concerns.

Monday's gathering, hosted by the Milton and junior chambers of commerce, was the last of the all-candidates meetings in the run up to the municipal election. All of them have been light on fireworks and heavy on the issues.

In total, nearly 600 people attended the meetings.

Jason Misner can be reached at [jmisner@miltoncanadianchampion.com](mailto:jmisner@miltoncanadianchampion.com).

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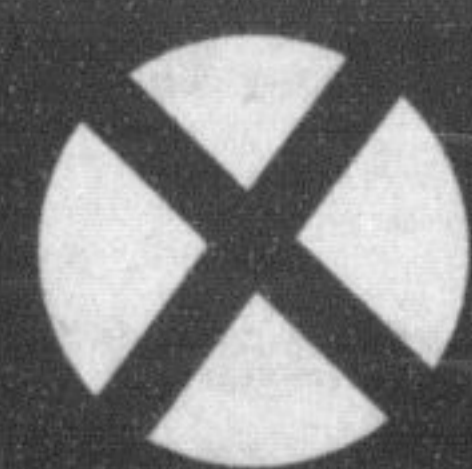
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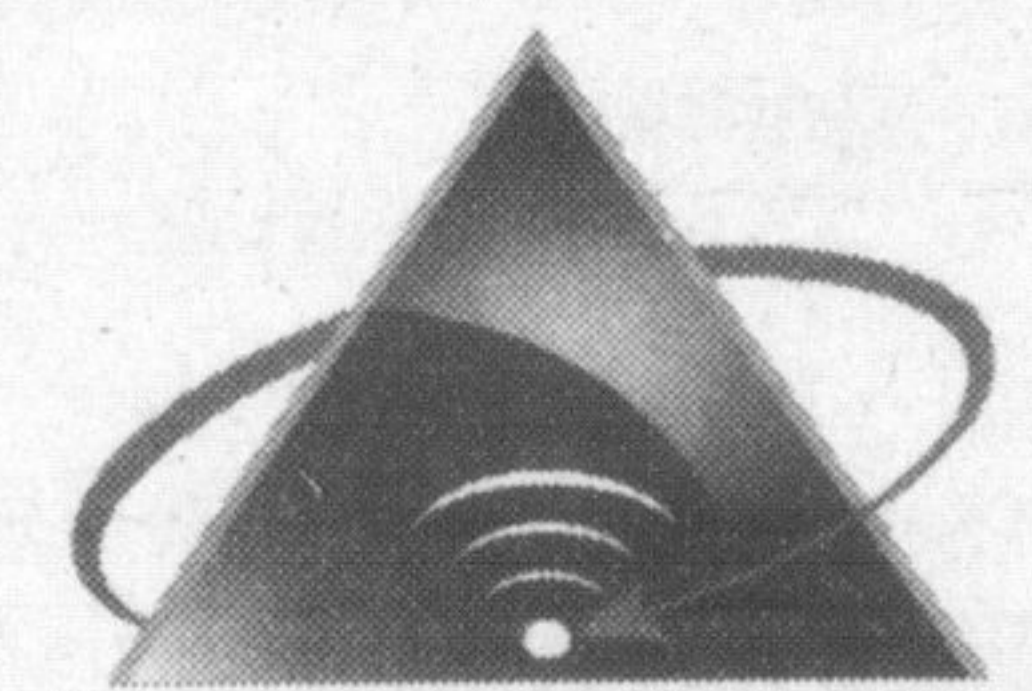
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