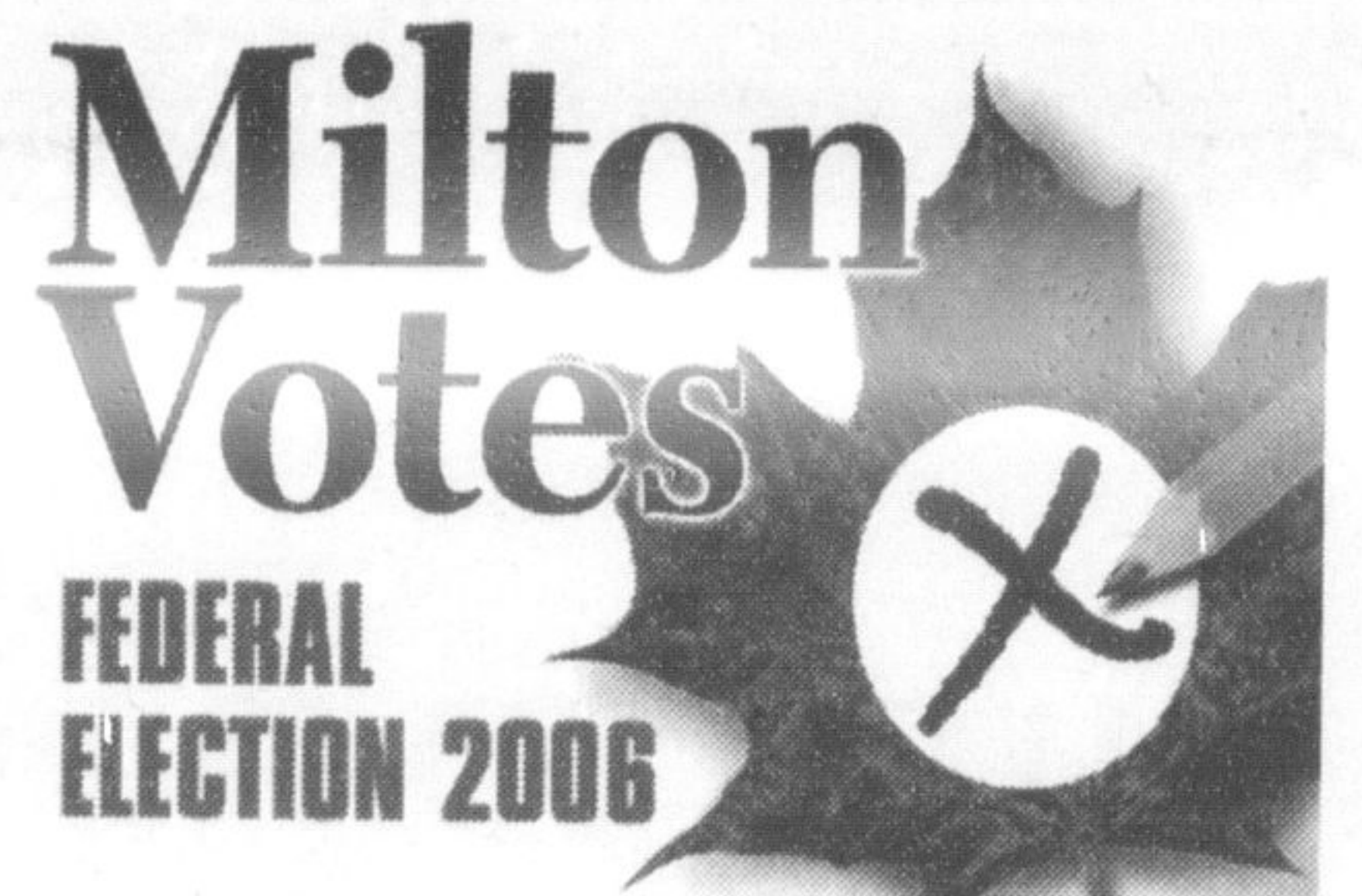


Candidates offer their thoughts on environment

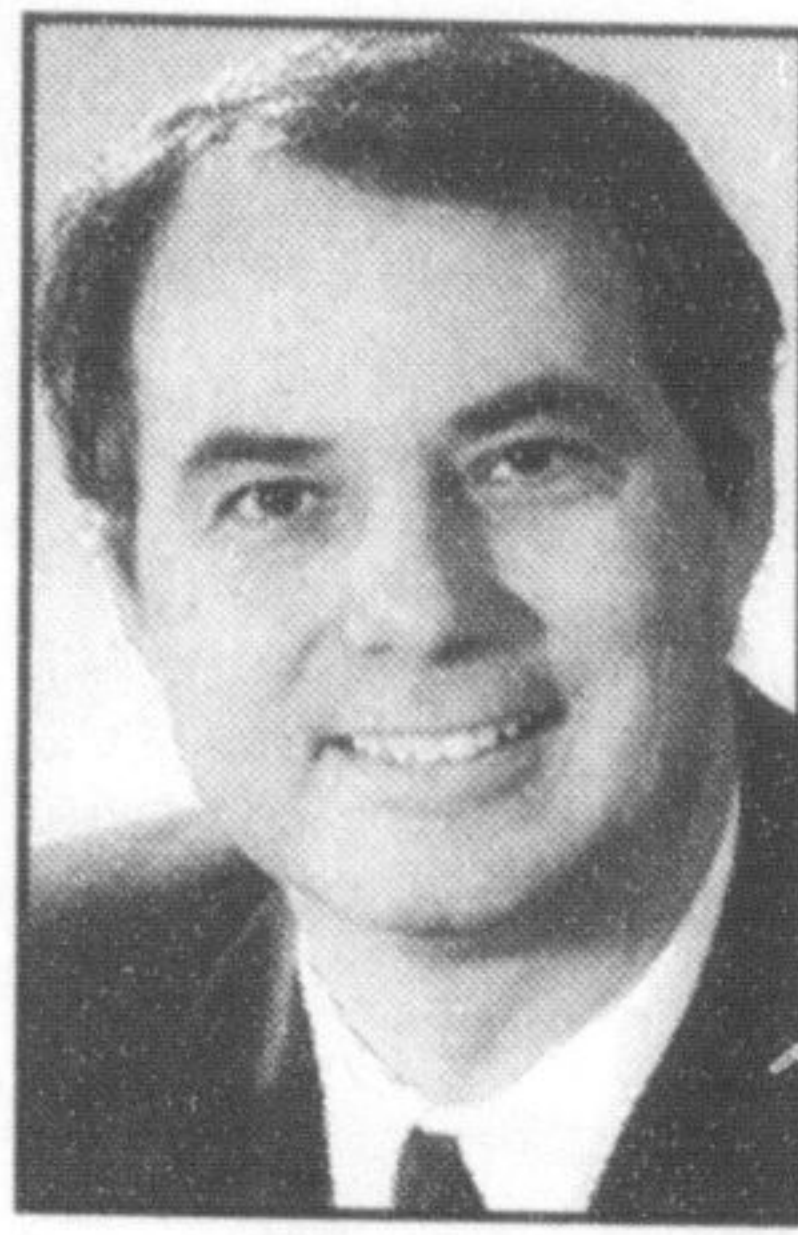


Halton's federal election candidates were recently asked *What will your party do to improve the environment?* Here are their responses.

The Paul Martin government will work with the rest of the global community to build on the progress made to date on climate change.

Here are some of our plans:

- Canada has committed to the toughest target, in terms of tonnage reduction, of any signatory under the Kyoto protocol.
 - To meet our goals, the Liberals launched the greenest budget in Canadian history.
 - Budget 2005 invested \$5 billion over five years to clean our air, land and water, preserve our environment and address climate change.
 - The Liberal government's updated climate change plan clearly spells out at least 270 megatonnes of emissions reductions from 2008 to 2012.
 - Budget 2005 provided a total of \$920 million over 15 years to expand the Wind Power Production Incentive, which will create enough energy to power one million Canadian homes with zero emissions.
 - \$300 million in new federal support for Green Municipal Funds. Half of this funding will target the clean-up of brown fields.
- These are tangible steps to meet our Kyoto commitments and address climate change — a problem some countries and politicians don't even acknowledge exists.



Gary Carr
Liberal Party

When you live in the country, as I do, the environment is a daily occurrence.

Our water comes from a well, and so we are acutely aware of its quality.

Our effluent goes into a septic system, so we take responsibility for it. We live amid trees, crops, wild and domestic animals that all depend on nature. The environment for me, in other words, is not a policy file to be managed. It is everyday, everywhere.

Conservatives are committed to combating greenhouse gases through mass transit, with the most effective tool to accomplish that — a tax credit for taking the GO to work, instead of grinding along the QEW or the 401.

We've promised farm families a financial boost that will help sustain them as custodians of the land and supporting those we count on for a steady supply of safe food.

Conservatives alone have committed themselves to protecting our vast Arctic territory, the source of much of our water and which plays a huge role in regulating conditions across Canada and around the world. The Arctic is a vital and important piece of this country which should not be misused by foreign interests.

The environment is us. We all have a role to play.



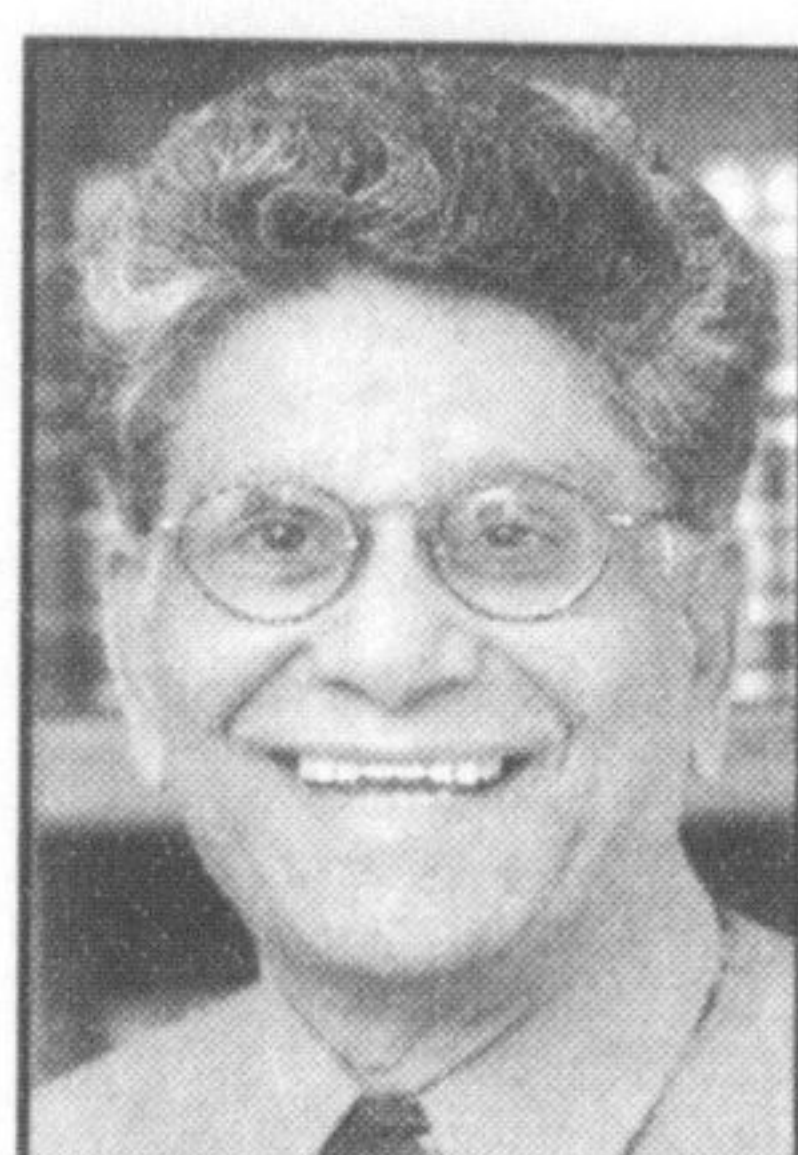
Garth Turner
Conservative

Today the greatest environmental issue facing Canada, and indeed the world, is climate change.

With Hurricane Katrina and other natural calamities, we have witnessed how climate change is already contributing to devastating disasters. Climate change has the potential to destroy our forests, dry out our farmland and erode our economic base. The NDP believes the time to act is now. Canada must not only live up to world agreements on cutting emissions, it must find ways to exceed them.

Budget surpluses spawned by sales of our fossil fuels should be reinvested in clean, green renewable energy sources. Research and development on alternative energy sources should be funded. Higher fuel efficiency standards for automobiles should be legislated. Energy conservation measures, by government, business and individual citizens, should be adopted, incentivized and promoted and Canada's natural resources must be protected.

Canada has been a world leader in conventional energy for decades. It's time for it to become a world leader in non-polluting, renewable energy. Not only will this create jobs and fuel growth in an industry, it will also reduce our dependence on the fossil fuels that are driving climate change.



Anwar Naqvi
NDP

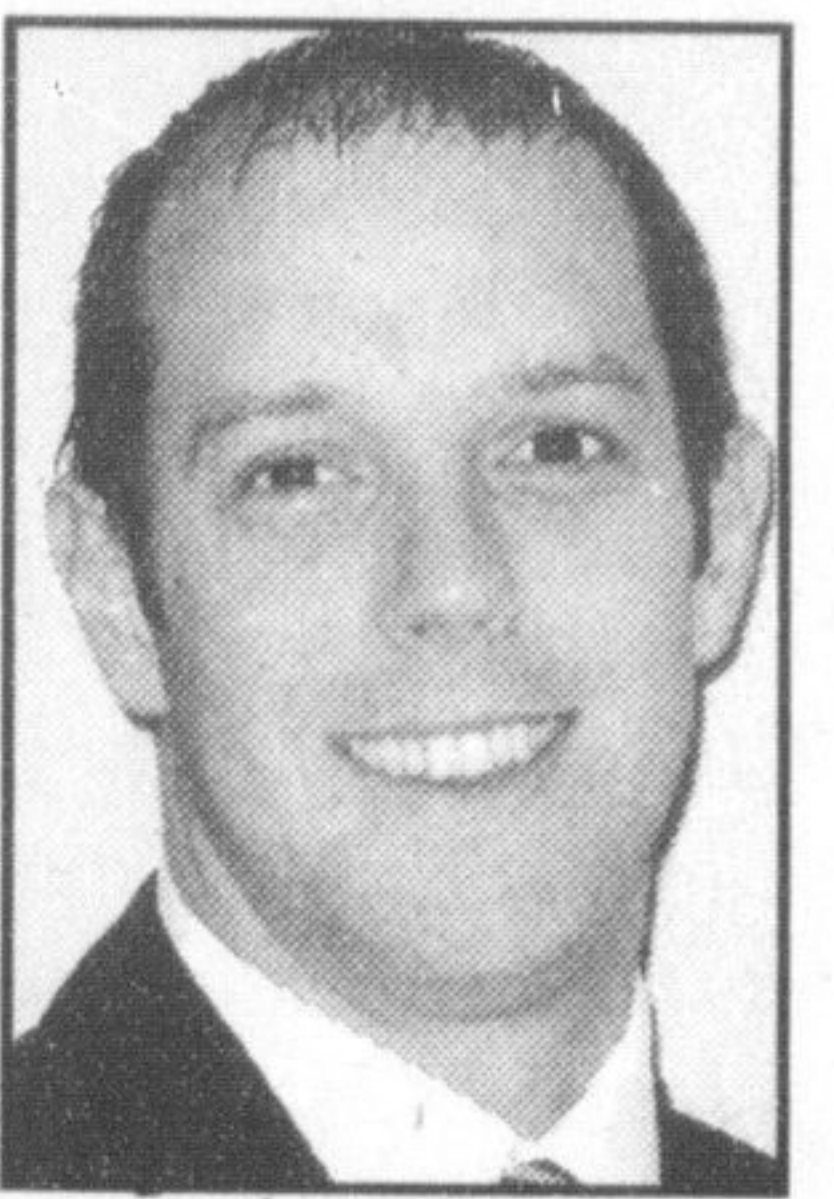
Putting the environment first in our platform makes sense, because the environment is at the heart of our well-being.

From health care to economic development to quality of life, Canadians are paying a higher price for decades of environmental neglect. Neglect that old line parties claim to be addressing yet continue to endorse through yearly \$1.4-billion subsidies to the oil and gas industry. Greens believe this is unacceptable.

The Green Party believes that clean air, soil and water is a basic right for all Canadians. We cannot have healthy people on a sick planet. Our environment is not something out there. We are part of it. What we do to our environment we do to ourselves and future generations.

Canada is becoming a toxic country. In fact, we rate near last in all categories for toxic chemicals including nuclear waste. Ecological wisdom, respect for diversity and sustainability are three of the Greens six key values. All environmental policy is generated from these values.

What the Greens will do for our environment is far too lengthy to discuss in this forum. Please visit and download our platform from the website www.greenparty.ca for the full details of our environmental policy.



Dr. Kyle Grice
Green Party

EMS cash comes in

The Region's emergency medical service (EMS) has received a cash transfusion of more than \$300,000 from the Province.

The money comes from the federal Diagnostic and Medical Equipment Fund, which was recently provided to the Ontario government.

Halton plans to use \$319,698 for equipment related to the ambulance program, ensuring that the Region's EMS personnel have the most current lifesaving technologies available to use in cardiac-related emergencies.

Funds were also received for the Region's Services for Seniors department. Locally, Allendale will be given \$19,270, while Post Inn Village in Oakville is slated to receive \$21,968.

Both will use the funds to offset the costs of purchasing various diagnostic, security and safety devices.

"Although this funding announcement was unexpected, Halton Region's commitment and ability to provide quality long-term care and emergency medical services will be strengthened by the receipt of these funds," said Regional Chairman Joyce Savoline.

As part of the funding announcement, Post Inn Village will also receive separate one-time funding to purchase 18 ceiling or wall-mounted lifts, which will reduce the risk of injury to patients and health-care workers. Allendale received similar funding earlier this year.

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Coming Soon!
January 14, 2006!
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Rise'n Shine - 10:30

This is a program of stories, songs, dance and rhymes for children 6 months to 3 years of age. Children **must** be accompanied by an adult caregiver.

Family Storytime - 10:30

A special Saturday storytime perfect for preschoolers of working parents. Children under the age of 3 are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult caregiver.

No registration required

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