

# Environment coalition sends 'green' message to candidates

A coalition of environmental groups is asking voters in 11 Ontario ridings including Halton to let candidates in an upcoming federal election know they want more investment in green energy and less pollution.

"We were looking at the ridings

the political parties will be watching most closely. Halton has been a close race in the past," said Gillian McEachern of ForestEthics, a North American-wide non-profit environmental organization.

"What we really want is for all candidates to hear from voters that

climate change is an issue."

To that end, ForestEthics, along with the Polaris Institute and Environmental Defence, have launched the website, [www.Yourvotetheirfuture.ca](http://www.Yourvotetheirfuture.ca), that will send form e-mails to party candidates in the next election.

Currently, the e-mails are sent automatically to sitting MPs, including Halton's Conservative MP Lisa Raitt, but that will change once an election is called, said McEachern.

The email states in part:

"This December, Canada has a

choice to make. Either we continue to produce more global warming pollution from the Tar Sands (in Alberta), or we catch up in the race to transition to the greener economy of tomorrow."

The reference to December isn't the date of an election, but rather refers to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, or COP 15, to be held in Copenhagen from December 7 to 18 ([www.unfccc.int](http://www.unfccc.int)).

## NDP seeks candidate

The NDP's Halton riding association has announced it has begun a nomination contest to choose a candidate for the next federal election.

Members of the NDP living within the Halton riding boundaries will be eligible to vote in the nomination meeting, which will be held along with an AGM later this month.

So far, the party's association has one prospective candidate, Pat Heroux. A former health-care aide at the Allendale long-term care home in Milton and a union local president, the retired Heroux was the NDP's Halton candidate in the last provincial election in 2007 when she came fourth garnering about 7.5 per cent of the vote.

The party's riding association is accepting applications from prospective candidates until Tuesday. The vote to select a candidate is set for the following Tuesday, Sept. 29 at 7:30 p.m. at the E.C. Drury Food School, 215 Ontario St. S. For more information, visit [www.haltonndp.ca](http://www.haltonndp.ca).

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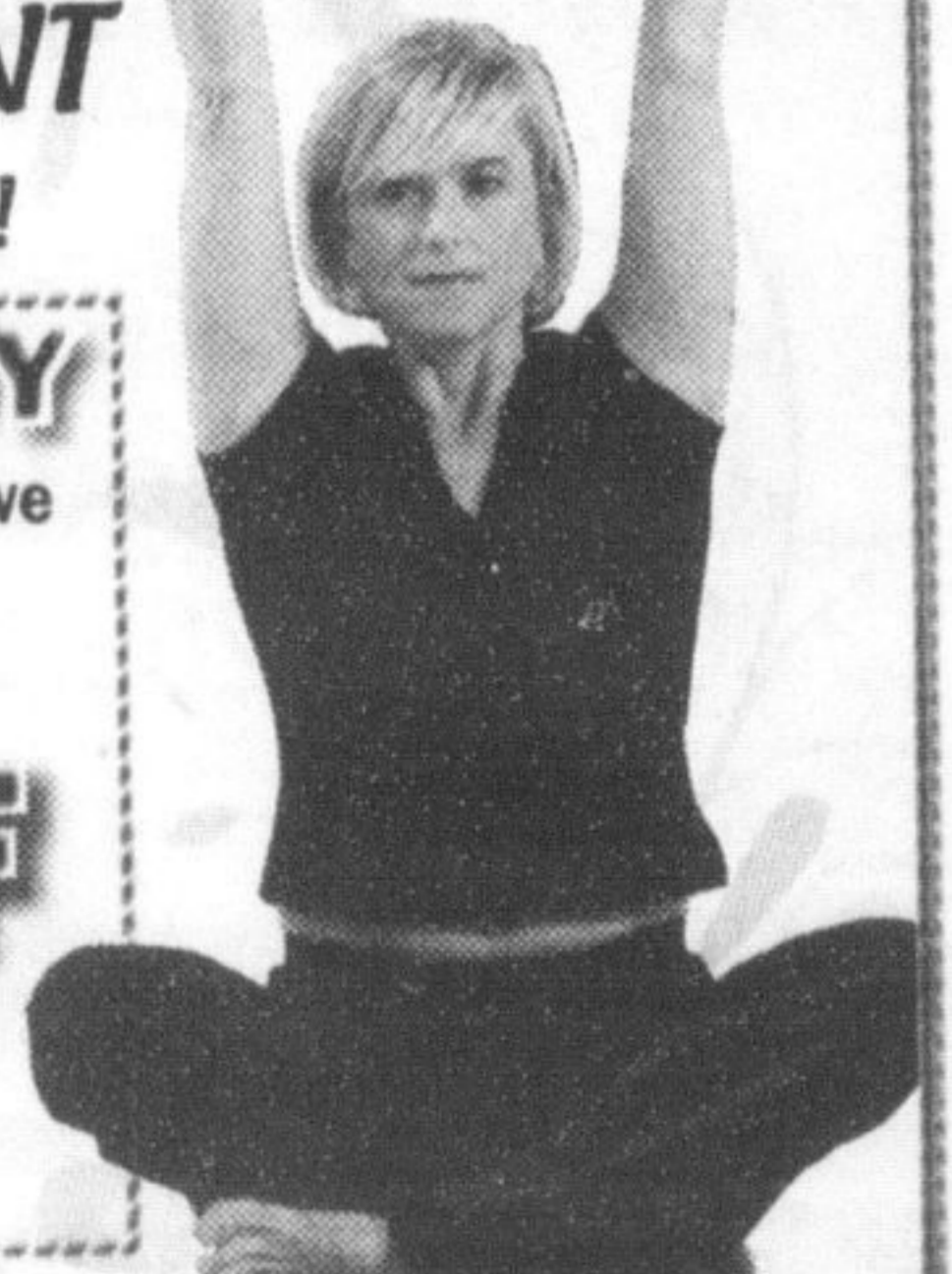
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