

# Allan Sommersall to carry Reform Party banner

By KAREN SMITH  
The Champion

The Reform Party of Canada has voted in its first federal candidate in the Oakville-Milton riding.

By a margin of 63 votes, a jubilant Dr. Allan Sommersall won the nomination race Tuesday.

"Tonight, the campaign to win this seat begins," bellowed the new candidate in his victory speech.

Reformers packed the St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Cultural Centre to elect the party's Oakville-Milton riding representative in the next federal election.

Dr. Sommersall, competing against Milton's Rick Malboeuf and Oakville's Bob Acheson, easily won over the more than 250 voters at the nomination meeting.

Because the Reform Party's Oakville-Milton Constituency Association policy calls for a candidate to obtain 50 per cent of the members' support in an election, a second vote was required.

With 50 votes, Mr. Acheson, who trailed Mr. Malboeuf by 36 and Dr. Sommersall by 77 after the first tally, was knocked out of the race.

That left Oakville's Dr. Sommersall, who had 127 votes the first time around, and Mr.

Malboeuf, with 86 votes, to battle it out. The voters continued their support for Dr. Sommersall on the second ballot. He won with 156 votes compared to Mr. Malboeuf's 93. "We gave it a good shot," Mr. Malboeuf told his supporters after the election results came in.

"Now let's go on and stand behind our new candidate."

Mr. Acheson admitted to feeling "relieved" that he was unsuccessful in his efforts to win his party's support. While he was setting out to give Canada "strong corrective surgery,"

the job would have required him to sacrifice his family life and hurt him financially as well, he said.

"I would have been an honest politician," he claimed. "I would have modelled myself after (former British prime minister) Margaret Thatcher."

Meanwhile, Dr. Sommersall said although the Reform Party is young, it is capable of carrying out an upset victory in the next federal election. The party now has more than 1,000 members in the Oakville-Milton riding. Progressive Conservative Otto Jelinek current-

ly holds the seat. "In a sense, I'm only just getting started," said Dr. Sommersall. "The probability is very good that we will win this."

The inspirational speaker said he follows Reform Party of Canada leader Preston Manning's view of "the new Canada."

"Some have called it ideal, but I would rather be idealistic and be forced to land in the world of reality than to be opportunistic and disappear in the abyss of political convenience, economic complacency and social compromise."

## Stability reigns in local real estate market

The local real estate market kept a foot in the comfort zone last month with figures from the Oakville, Milton and District Real Estate Board showing a 12 per cent increase over last August's total dollar volume of sales.

According to the Board, the \$46.3 million in sales recorded last month is 4 per cent lower than July's total and represents the first decrease in sales volume since May, when sales dropped 27 per cent over April's total.

"For the most part, this year has been marked by steady month-over-month increases," says board president Mark Mallalieu. "Although we hesitate to make predictions, we've noted an interesting trend at work in real estate right now that could see total sales activity for 1992 surpassing 1991 levels."

Mr. Mallalieu notes that sales during the first

few months of 1991 were exceptional, peaking at a high of \$84.1 million in March but declining almost every month thereafter for the rest of the year. In the end, despite the monthly decreases, 1991 was a far better year, real estate-wise, than 1990.

"This year, by contrast, we've seen very little 'flash' and plenty of slow but steady growth since January," Mr. Mallalieu says. "Monthly dollar sales volumes have generally ranged between \$40 million and \$50 million in a respectable, if unspectacular, trend towards stability."

"The end result is that the total dollar volume of sales for the year is gradually catching up to where it was a year ago," he adds.

The Oakville/Milton area has recorded a total dollar volume of sales of \$392.2 million this year, down 13 per cent from last year.

"If the market remains stable, we can expect total results for 1992 to match — if not exceed — last year's activity," says Mr. Mallalieu. "The statistics represent a comforting stability, rather than a dramatic success," he adds. "But give me comfort over drama any day."

Vendors and purchasers stand to benefit from current economic conditions, Mr. Mallalieu notes, because inflation and interest rates are low and prices are stable.

He advises people contemplating a move into the Oakville/Milton area, however, to enlist the services of a local salesperson to ensure they receive the most accurate market information possible.

"A local salesperson can provide up-to-the-minute information on the listing and selling prices of homes in your neighbourhood," Mr. Mallalieu says.



Allan Sommersall

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