Simcoe East likes Conservatives Liberal's Geo. Mac Donald observes

Peterson's coat-tails weren't long enough this time around

by MURRAY MOORE

enough to help Liberal Party candidate George MacDonald in Simcoe East. The Liberal vote in the riding rose the least from 1981 to 1984, less than 250 votes. The New Democrat vote rose nearly 2,000 votes. Incumbent Allan McLean drew the votes of nearly 1,000 more voters in 1985 than in 1981.

"There 's no specific reason" for the level of Liberal support, MacDonald said the morning after the election. "It tends to always be PC (Progressive Conservative) here The voters did not go for a change."

MacDonald would stand as a candidate again. "I don't consider that I did too badly

David Peterson's coat-tails weren't long to wait for two of those weeks for brochures. standing." The three parties will not have

end of Simcoe East. "Bullen was No. 1 in "You start playing with the process and Orillia. I don't know why. He is well known. If you go to every dog fight in town someone will know you." (Fayne Bullen has been an NDP candidate in a total of five local federal and provincial elections.)

MacDonald's hope is that the Conservatives, Liberals and New Democrats "will sit down in a mature manner and look at all of the important issues that need to be settled." Jobs should be the priority.

The lack of a majority of seats being held by

after only five weeks." The Midland man had one party will mean an absence of "grand-MacDonald "did very well" at the Midland time for grandstanding, MacDonald said. you're out on your ear."

> A good minority government will get a lot of things done, MacDonald said. A minority government can achieve a lot. Bob Rae, leader of the New Democrats, in some cases "will hold the trump card."

MacDonald does not expect another election until 18 months or two years have passed. In the meantime he is still looking for a job. His last paid job was as co-ordinator of the papal visit to Huronia.

Last August and last January MacDonald was a candidate when a vacancy on Midland council had to be filled by appointment. Each time he finished second in the voting done by members of the council. He said he doesn't know if he will run in the municipal election in November. "I'll have to take a look at it," he said. "I'll have to see who is running."

The provincial election was a much better experience, he said. In previous elections his part was as a volunteer. "I was always a volunteer before. It's different to be right in there and be the person yourself. I know now how you have to rely on having someone with you."

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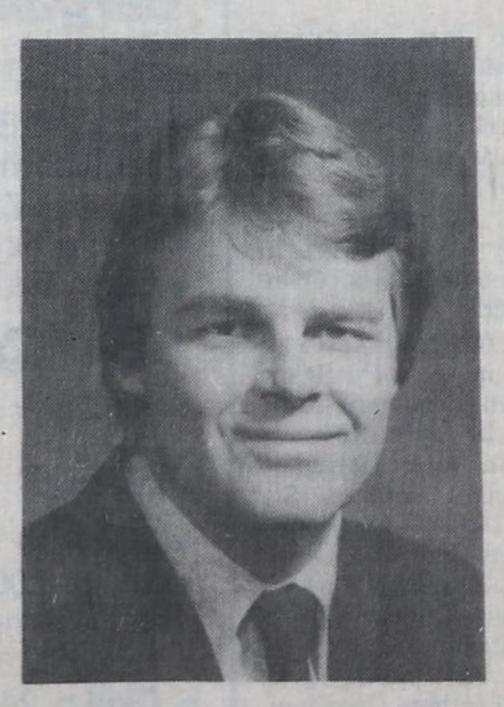


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