

# Candidates square off at Oak Ridge

Like voters everywhere, patients at Penetanguishene's Mental Health Centre want to know what Simcoe East's candidates will do for them if elected.

Incumbent, Progressive Conservative Allan McLean, Liberal Butch Orser and New Democratic Party candidate Fayne Bullen answered their queries at a debate held at the centre Friday morning.

Patients expressed concern about the lack of input they have into decision making at the institution.

"It's great that we are going to get more staff, but the politicians and management make all these wonderful decisions for us. They have a tendency to overlook our questions because they think they know what is best for us. You don't want to listen to the patients themselves and they are the ones who are going to pay the price of your decisions," one patient told the candidates.

Several others criticized the system by which complaints are dealt with, preferring advocacy groups set up by the patients themselves rather than those set up by the centre.

Another accused management within the centre of "choking off our plea for help" and called for a "Sherlock Holmes type of atmosphere" to investigate patient's complaints.

Another issue patients

wanted to discuss was that of payment for work done in the hospital shop. Several stated patients should be paid minimum wage for their efforts.

"To me, anything less than that is slave labor," said one patient.

McLean offered that there is no easy answer to the problem. "We've got to look at the fact of what's being asked to be done by patients," he said.

Orser disagreed with the request for a minimum wage within the institution.

"The system is an incentive pay, it's not pay for work. You people are having therapy here," he told patients.

Bullen agreed work done for therapeutic purposes should not qualify for minimum wage.

"But work that is done over and beyond what is done for therapy should be paid for," said Bullen. He added if patients were paid for this work it might be fair to make them pay for some of the things they receive as "extras."

When the 40 minute question period ended, patients were free to approach candidates with individual concerns.

And like voters everywhere, the patients at Oak Ridge took what they heard with a grain of salt.

"There you go, the world's going to change right before our eyes," one patient quipped when the debate was over.



## Debate at Centre

Simcoe East candidates participated in a debate at Penetanguishene's Mental Health Centre last Friday morning. It was the only

debate of the election held in one of the province's mental health centres. Patients questioned the candidates on payment done for

work in the hospital's shop and on input on decision making at the institution.

## Harbour to sell lots for homes

Victoria Harbour is entering the subdivision business by offering serviced lots for only \$11,900.

Residents who attended a public meeting last Wednesday had first chance to buy a lot. Everyone in the village was to receive in the next day's mail notice of the opportunity.

Municipalities normally do not get involved in real estate. The village council's idea is that its action will create momentum which will lead to more development in the village. The village's involvement is supposed to be short.

Being offered for sale are 28 65-foot by 165-foot lots owned by the village off Highway 12 north of the Tay Township office.

Three objections were filed when the village changed the zoning of the land to make possible a new street. Unless those objections are withdrawn, an Ontario Municipal Board hearing will be held in January. Village solicitor Gord Teskey has given the council his opinion that the objections will not be upheld.

The village has an estimate of \$10,000 per lot to provide water and sewer service, electricity and a street with ditches. The village will tender the work

and hopes for a lower cost.

Carol Collins of Bryson McQuirter Real Estate, the real estate firm selling the lots for the village, is a resident of the Harbour. She said similar lots in Midland would cost double the price set by the council.

Presently the village doesn't contain any good building lots, although people in the village and others are interested, she said.

Owners of the lots will share the cost of the servicing through a local improvement tax payable through 25 years.

Deputy-reeve Robert Moreau said that the council isn't attempting to make money by selling land, but to open a block of undeveloped land owned by the village for 50 years, at no cost to the general taxpayers. Any profit would be spent on improving the village's water system.

A buyer of a lot would have to build with 18 months. The village is reserving the option to buy back a lot for the original price if building does not occur within 18 months after sale, to prevent speculators from hoarding lots.

The 28 lots could be only a first phase. The block of village-owned land can be divided into 114 lots.



# GEORGE BEATTY

## Your Progressive Conservative Candidate for Muskoka - Georgian Bay

Two years of Liberal Government have seen a 48% increase in Provincial Tax Revenues, through 19 separate tax increases. Rather than spend this extra revenue wisely, the Liberals have hired 4,645 new civil servants — a cost of 250

million dollars per year, and passed out millions to such causes as a 'High Tech Centre'.

**The Liberals are high on spending our money, not so high on spending what is important to us HERE!**

### GEORGE BEATTY and the Progressive Conservatives want our extra tax revenue turned into:

- More funding for education facilities
- Relief for thousands who want but cannot afford rental housing, and incentives for developers to BUILD more rental units.
- A minimum of 80% support funding for volunteer home care services in our communities. Our communities in need of home care services, should receive start-up grants.
- Capital Grants for Roads — before they deteriorate to a point requiring massive funding.

GEORGE BEATTY STANDS FOR: \* Better Educational Facilities  
\* Affordable Housing  
\* A Better Break for our Elderly  
\* Better Roads WE CAN AFFORD IT NOW!

Have you asked yourself "What do the other candidates stand for?"

*"Let's continue to build on a strong foundation."*



FRANK MILLER

**VOTE**  **VOTE** **BEATTY**

### Your P.C. Committee Rooms

GRAVENHURST — Muskoka Rd. S., (next to the Library) \*  
687-7616, 687-7667, 687-8871, 687-4392  
BRACEBRIDGE — 75 Manitoba St.,  
645-3016, 645-3017

HUNTSVILLE — Old Court House Building  
789-6436

MIDLAND — 486 Hugel Ave.,  
526-0521, 526-0522, 526-0523, 526-6701