

# Voting and attendance record released

RICHMOND HILL — Town councillors' voting and attendance records during the past two years, compiled by the Citizens' Advisory Group, were released this week by CAG president Dawn Osmond.

The figures confirm a major difference of opinion between mayoralty candidates David Schiller and Gordon Rowe on the \$1 "development" votes since January 1975.

Schiller voted against 37 development proposals and Rowe voted against five.

The CAG record also showed that Schiller's attendance record was much higher than Rowe's.

Schiller attended 212 of the 226 meetings of council, committees of which he is a member, and public hearings. Rowe's record was 80 of 134.

Schiller was present at all 40 public question periods held prior to regular council meetings. Rowe chose not to attend any.

Commenting on the voting record compilation, Mrs. Osmond stated:

"Development covers approval (for) or denial (against), for example zoning changes and lot severances.

"The vote of each councillor on each motion was recorded, taking into account the wording — the intent — of the motion. In some cases, an individual may have specific reason for voting for or against a motion which are not implicit in the motion itself. Nonetheless, the effect of the vote is as shown.

"I believe the attendance record speaks for itself."

Here is the breakdown of votes of the entire council on development proposals:

Schiller — for 24, against 37. Rowe — for 40, against 5, absent 16 votes.

**Councillors' votes**

Lois Hancey — for 31, against 27, absent twice. Andy Chateauvert — for 27, against 31, absent three times; Al Duffy — for 25, against 36. John Birchall — for 27, against 34; Marylo Graham — for 20, against 36, absent

four times; William Corcoran — for 43, against 9, absent nine times; Mike Burnie — for 23, against 29, absent nine times.

Attendance record for regular council meetings and committee of the whole: Schiller 50 of 50, Rowe 41, Hancey 49, Chateauvert 46, Duffy 49, Birchall 49, Graham 46, Corcoran 44, Burnie 47.

Council meetings held in wards: Schiller 12 of 12, Rowe 0, Hancey 12,

Chateauvert 7, Duffy 10, Birchall 12, Graham 10, Corcoran 1, Burnie 11.

Question periods prior to council meetings: Schiller 40 of 40, Rowe 0, Hancey 39, Chateauvert 36, Duffy 39, Birchall 39, Graham 35, Corcoran 0, Burnie 37.

Committee meetings: Schiller 150 of 164, Rowe 39 of 73, Hancey 96 of 102, Chateauvert 78 of 91, Duffy 58 of 62, Birchall 104 of 105, Graham 99 of 102, Corcoran 59 of 80, Burnie 59 of 59.



Lois Hancey  
... experienced veteran



William Corcoran  
... ideas for jail farm



Ray Gemmill  
... wants orderly growth



Ann Gold  
... citizen activist

**Richmond Hill Edition**

# The Liberal

*"In Essentials Unity, in Non-Essentials Liberty, in all things Charity"*

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## Support withdrawn for values education

AURORA — Education Minister Thomas Wells recently withdrew all financial support from the values education programs in Ontario schools, and Monday night York County Board of Education withdrew its moral support.

For the time being, anyway. The board declared a moratorium on such things as value decisions by group consensus, or moral dilemmas, and certain controversial teaching methods, until such time as the board could come up with the proper guidelines in such things.

And one way it hopes to do that, is by having various members of staff and the special committee on values education, meet with education minister Wells "for the purpose of clarifying the interpretation of values education policy as stated in the Formative Years and other documents".

Monday's motion by the committee grew out of an earlier one by Trustee Joy Horton of East Gwillimbury, calling for "a moratorium on all experimental programs in the classrooms involving the explicit study of values as they occur at present", with special

emphasis on stopping programmed discussions on personal and family matters, with peer-group decisions, and moral dilemma questionnaires.

The latter were also contained in Monday's motion, but were later changed to cover "teaching methods involving group discussions of personal family matters, value decisions by group consensus, or moral dilemmas".

The idea was that they not be employed until the board had adopted proper guidelines for teaching them. The original motion included "teaching methods involving indoctrination processes".

The board also moved to re-design its human values education committee to consist of two trustees, and two citizen representatives, plus one representative each from YCETAF and OSSTF "which will liaise (sic) with the writing team for the Formative Years".

The board had to resolve a "moral" crisis of its own, right off the bat when Trustee Horton said she agreed with committee chairman Don Cameron's rewording of the motion.

She had discussed it before the meeting with him, so it was all right

with her, she said.

Cameron then objected, because he said he didn't want people to think the committee had been going behind their backs.

"I just happened to see you five minutes before," he said to Mrs. Horton.

"I was just trying to co-operate," she replied.

The board really had to move to receive the report and move the motion over again.

Trustee Margaret Coburn of King, said the whole thing was a "non-issue," so far as she was concerned. There were no problems in King.

Trustee John Stephens of Markham, said a moratorium was needed until the committee could meet with education minister Wells "to find out what's going on".

In the meantime, a values education team was going around formulating policy.

Education director Sam Chapman said that writing teams were "part of the whole formative years approach". They wouldn't come up with a course for kindergarten to grade 6, but would develop some sort of constituency.

He said that he was concerned about the interpretation of the term, "indoctrination process". If they told children they must tell the truth, then that was indoctrination.

"In everything we do there is some

element of indoctrination," he said. "If we put this motion on the books, it becomes a vehicle for whipping the teachers; it will make them teach antiseptically."

Said trustee Chris McMonagle of Markham: "Surely, we have teachers with some common sense . . . I don't think that's what we mean by indoctrination."

She said that they were speaking of projects, where two children were put in the position of having to decide between right and wrong in a contrived situation.

Dorothy Zajac of King said that all teaching was indoctrination. If some was being done wrong in the schools, "let's correct it". But they shouldn't pass a motion saying one couldn't do this or couldn't do that.

On an amendment by Trustee Donald Sim of Markham it was agreed to drop the controversial line, "indoctrination processes," and substitute "teaching methods involving group discussions of personal family matters," with the rest as before.

Clive Beck of Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, (OISE) which carried out the values education programs with three boards over the past five years, has been reported as saying the moral dilemma and group consensus discussions were not effective and would not be recommended again.

## They're off and running

RICHMOND HILL — The signs are up and the door-knocking has begun as Richmond Hill civic election candidates compete for attention in all six wards less than two weeks from Dec. 6 voting day.

Ward 1, the only ward with more than two candidates, is being contested by incumbent Andy Chateauvert, Peter DeVita and Bob Wright.

Chateauvert, a payroll supervisor for the provincial government, has been on council since 1971. He has continually been chairman of the finance committee and a member of the planning committee.

"You never seem to finish all the things you want to see completed," Chateauvert commented.

He's particularly interested in the Official Plan, due for completion sometime next year, and in the town's economic situation.

"We're trying to maintain a reasonable tax level" without drastic cutbacks of services which might lead to even greater expense in the future.

Chateauvert also says the town must move to attract more industrial development as a means of expanding the assessment base and keeping residential taxes in line.

**Ward 1 race**  
Peter DeVita, a professional engineer, has lived in Richmond Hill 1½ years and previously owned a business in Thornhill.

He also calls for increased industry and notes that about half of the town's residents go outside the community to find work.

"More industry here will mean more jobs, lower residential tax rates and generally a more vital and active community."

DeVita also said it is the duty of a councillor to keep in close touch with the electorate throughout his term of office. He said he would, if elected, issue periodic reports to keep the voters informed of issues and concerns.

Bob Wright, a registered industrial accountant, is a member of the committee of adjustment and has been active in local Scouting and sports activities.

"The Official Plan decisions, the decisions regarding the balance between residential and industrial-commercial growth, the setting of priorities at budget time . . . are going

to require ability on the part of the elected representatives. The business of a town is serious business."

Wright believes "people have a right to expect their councillor will go more than halfway to keep them informed. It took two little girls to focus attention on the need for a crossing barrier at Crosby Avenue and the railway tracks."

**Ward 2**  
The candidates in Ward 2 are incumbent Al Duffy and former mayor William Lazenby. Both have previously published brief campaign statements.

**Ward 3**  
In Ward 3, incumbent John Birchall is being opposed by Ray Gemmill. Gemmill, a steamfitter and project foreman, lives at 227 Ruggles Ave. He has been active in several church, school, sports and service organizations, and has served on the town's recreation committee.

He said he favors "orderly and selective growth with emphasis on industrial development. With increased services in sight, we should be attracting that type of industry best suited to our needs and environment."

"By orderly development, our tax burden will be better shared, many more residents will be able to work as well as live here, and we will enjoy much better services for our tax dollar."

As a councillor, Gemmill said, he would personally take residents' problems to the proper authority for quick action.

**Ward 4**  
The Ward 4 candidates, incumbent Marylo Graham and challenger Claude Henderson, earlier announced their candidacy and platform statements.

**Ward 5**  
Ward 5 incumbent William Corcoran is being challenged by Ann Gold. Corcoran said the issues are the same as they have been for many years — housing, employment, taxes.

"I find it discouraging that even members of town staff have to go to places like Newmarket because they can't find housing in their own municipality . . . The prime responsibility for the shortage of affordable housing rests with local politicians."

"Too many are afraid to make progressive decisions which may be in conflict with vocal minority groups that are stifling the economy of this municipality at the expense of the working man."

Corcoran called for development of the Langstaff Jail Farm site, "a golden opportunity for prime industrial, housing and commercial uses."

This would be a significant benefit to taxpayers, he said, "and housing could be provided for those who are desperately looking for a home they can afford."

Ann Gold has regularly attended town and regional council meetings for several years and has been active in many area organizations, including Helpmate Information, the Social Planning Council, York Region

emergency housing committee and the United Way.

She said that because of her knowledge of local government, she has been called on to act as an ombudsman over peoples' concern in issues such as land severances, pensions, welfare, bylaws and housing.

"The local council — the level of government closest to the people — must be more responsive and accountable to the constituents of Ward 5."

Mrs. Gold is employed by the Ontario Conference on Local Government as basic course co-ordinator. A former director of nurses in Ontario, she holds degrees in both nursing and obstetrics.

**Ward 6**  
In Ward 6, Councillor Mike Burnie earlier announced his intention to seek re-election, and he is now being opposed by Lionel Boswell of 70 Garden Ave.

Boswell has been particularly vocal and active in protesting the recent move to bring sewerage to Richvale. At a recent council meeting, he indicated that this was basically his only motive in running against Burnie.

Boswell considers the sewer project an unnecessary expense and he ob-

jected to the method council used of polling residents on the issue. (Those opposed were expected to mail in notices of objection, while no action was considered an affirmative vote.)

Boswell has operated a flooring contracting business for 19 years and has been involved in service club work and in sports organizations. He is on the executive of the South Richvale-Langstaff ratepayers association.

**Regional council**  
Regional Councillor Lois Hancey is seeking re-election and is opposed by previously announced candidates Lou Wainwright and Eric George.

Mrs. Hancey has been in local government 13 years, nine years as a town councillor and the last four years as regional representative.

"My experience, covering all aspects of municipal government, will give the town's residents knowledgeable, independent representation over the next two years," she said.

Her platform is "experience, full-time representation, and accountability to the people of Richmond Hill" and she re-affirmed her commitment to "work actively and conscientiously in the interests" of the public.



Peter DeVita  
... Industry is needed



Andy Chateauvert  
... heads finance committee



Bob Wright  
... serious decisions ahead



Lionel Boswell  
... opposed to sewers

## Schiller defends his record on spending

RICHMOND HILL — In the struggle to keep local taxes from rising, Richmond Hill has just come through its best year yet since 1971, Mayor David Schiller said this week.

Refuting claims from his mayoralty opponent Gordon Rowe that spending at the local level has increased by an average of 20 per cent in the years since 1971, Schiller released official municipal budgetary figures showing the true amounts and percentages in question.

The figures show that in 1976, local taxes — that is, the portion of the tax bill over which town council has control — increased by only 4.1 per cent.

Meanwhile, spending went up by 8.5 per cent — also the smallest increase in five years.

The greatest increases occurred in 1974 — a year when his opponent was in office but Schiller was not, the mayor

pointed out. In that year, spending jumped by about 21.8 per cent, while local taxes increased by about 17.7 per cent, the official figures show.

The year 1975 — Schiller's first year in office as mayor — did not show immediate improvement because, like all new municipal administrations, his was bound by financial decisions made by the outgoing council. In that year, spending increased by about 19.9 per cent and taxes by about 16.8 per cent.

"As anyone familiar with municipal government knows, it takes a full year for any new council to reverse old trends and overcome old financial deficiencies inherited from a previous council," the mayor said.

It was not until his second year in office that his administration's policies on spending and taxation could be reflected in the annual statistics, he said.

## Jail farm site should be put to use, Rowe says

RICHMOND HILL — The 600-acre Langstaff jail farm site in south Richmond Hill could be put to a variety of uses that would benefit area residents, mayoralty candidate Gordon Rowe believes.

In a statement to The Liberal, Rowe said the property has been "lying dormant, bringing in very little income to the Town of Richmond Hill."

"In fact, we in Richmond Hill are subsidizing the city of Toronto, and where else can you get such a deal?"

Toronto throws us a crumb and we are supposed to be happy."

In 1972, Rowe proposed a domed stadium and amateur sports complex for the city-owned property, a proposal that was given serious consideration by provincial government planners.

He still believes the site could be used for amateur sports facilities, as well as for some homes, commercial development and passive parks.

"Richmond Hill must control the destiny of that property," he says.

### Low profile

RICHMOND HILL — Council candidate William Lazenby is running what you might call a low-key campaign.

He's gone off to Germany. Lazenby, the pharmacist and former mayor who's opposing incumbent Al Duffy in Ward 2, left Wednesday of last week and is due to return by the end of this week.

Asked the reason for his trip, Lazenby snapped: "It's nobody's business."

### Inside The Liberal

#### Canada World Youth film

A group of youths from Canada and Third World countries, including Richmond Hill's Christine Johns, are filmed during their exchange visit activities for a new National Film Board production, *The World Is Round*, Page C-1.

Another round-up of school board candidates is in this issue. Page C-8.

This week's index of news and advertising features is:

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