

Election '75 DURHAM NORTH

Liberal candidate knocks regional government set up

UXBRIDGE — Former provincial court judge Claire Morrison attacked regional government, the education system, provincial land-use policy and the Environmental Protection Act in an interview with The Tribune Monday.

Mr. Morrison is the Liberal candidate for Durham North riding, facing incumbent Conservative Bill Newman and NDP candidate Leslie Griffin.

Regarding regional government, Mr. Morrison says that it "isn't improving service at all." He said that "generally speaking" he would "like to get more control in the hands of local municipalities."

His prime beef with the Environmental Protection Act, he said, is that it can't be enforced "without the ministry's approval." Mr. Morrison termed the law "horrendous."

His PC opponent is provincial Minister of the Environment William Newman.

Another pet peeve of Mr. Morrison's is the Ontario court system. "The administration of justice... is on the verge of collapse," he said. Case loads are unreasonable and less than one percent of the budget is spent on the justice system, he said.

Mr. Morrison himself stepped down from his post as president of the Provincial Judges Association in June and has said he was motivated to run as a candidate in the September 18 election because of the "rotten" court situation.

Mr. Morrison was a provincial judge in Newmarket before resigning to run for the Durham North seat.

He feels the education system is "a bloody horrible mess," and favors putting "academic discipline back in education."

As for Mr. Morrison's views on the proposed Pickering airport, he said that it came under federal jurisdiction and that it was "good with regard to the economy." While it is always "sad to see someone moved out of their home," he said he was satisfied with the Gibson report's conclusion that a need for an airport exists.

Mr. Morrison also told The Tribune that he is upset with land use policy that causes good agricultural land to be developed. He proposed the provincial government do a land inventory and say to local governments "if you want housing use this land, and cut out a lot of the red tape."

NDP candidate Leslie Griffin

Planning policy knocked

UXBRIDGE — "Haphazard planning" has come under fire recently by Durham North NDP candidate Leslie Griffin as she battles Liberal Clare Morrison and PC Bill Newman before the September 16 polling.

As an example of poor planning by the Davis government, she cites the amount of farmland — "five million acres since 1951" — that's gone out of existence.

"Ontario will be forced to import 60 per cent of its farm products from other provinces this year," she told The Tribune in an interview Monday.

Regional government is another area drawing Ms. Griffin's criticism. The 23-year-old political science student said "Regional government itself is fine," but that "no overall plan" has been put into effect to regulate it.

"Many rural area taxes are up and no real services in return," Ms. Griffin said. "It is difficult for single municipalities to institute changes."

Ms. Griffin, a Trent University student, worked in NDP campaigns for both Bob Wayne and Ed Broadbent, with involvement in student politics over the years.

She feels the NDP is "the only party that can bring real changes," and "all the NDP policies are based around concern for people." She admits the NDP has an "uphill battle" to fight.

Regarding housing, Ms. Griffin said there was a "vast shortage." While

110,000 starts were needed this year, only 75,000 houses actually got off the ground, she said.

On the proposed Pickering airport, Ms. Griffin said her position was to "halt any immediate construction now and in the near future, and re-examine the whole need for it."

The kind of planning Ms. Griffin advocates is to have "land allocated" for each kind of development. She said the NDP would take "immediate action" on the "control of land by developers and speculators," which is the "major problem."

Ms. Griffin also at-

PC William Newman

Tough fight predicted

UXBRIDGE — Putting in "16 to 18 hours daily" at present provincial Environment Minister Bill Newman of Claremont, is prepared for a "tough fight" in the election on September 18.

Mr. Newman, first elected in 1967, is running for the Durham North seat.

Regarding his opponents, Liberal Clare Morrison and NDP'er Leslie Griffin, Mr. Newman told The Tribune, "As far as I know, they're very nice people; I just hope it's a clean campaign."

When asked to name programs he was most proud of, Mr. Newman mentioned a

"reclamation - recycling program," which he said was "one of the biggest steps forward." He also mentioned "a new grant program to regions... increased subsidies to smaller municipalities who can't afford sewage and water... and the 'Watts from Waste' program," which he says he is "pushing very hard."

He also named the environment assessment act, an anti-noise program, the Great Lakes clean-up and laws governing septic tanks.

However, since first being elected, he said, "my first concern has been my constituents."

The Tribune asked Mr. Newman whether he felt the provincial government had done everything it can to stop the proposed Pickering airport. Mr. Newman himself has been an outspoken critic of the airport.

He replied that the PC government has said that financial matters must be settled before an airport is begun, as happened in Quebec. In a recent conversation with federal Transport Minister Jean Marchand, Mr. Newman said, Marchand had told him, "It was our decision to build an airport and our location... if a mistake's been made, it's our mistake."

Mr. Newman added that the airport is "completely in federal jurisdiction," and that he has been "personally opposed to the airport."

As to a charge by Liberal leader Robert Nixon that the Tory government lacks "integrity," Mr. Newman said that while the government isn't "perfect," that "as far as integrity goes, I don't believe that's ever been a question."

In closing, he cited a statistic stating that Ontario supplies 47 per cent of Canada's GNP, to show that the province had prospered under the Tories.

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Police news

Stolen truck found wrecked

STOUFFVILLE — A truck reported stolen by a Stouffville man was later found wrecked, according to York Regional Police.

Bruce Cotton, 19, of R. R. 1, Stouffville, had reported a truck belonging to his employer, Peter Bishop stolen on August 22. Four days later the truck was located by Durham Regional Police, abandoned.

Later, Cotton admitted to driving the truck off the road himself.

TV Taken

A 20-inch Fleetwood colour TV was reported stolen from the home of James Meakes, Albert Street, recently. Police reported the set was worth \$400.

Windows smashed

Three eight by 22-inch plexiglass windows in a hut at Bruce's Mill were reported broken recently.

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