

# Stouffville Tribune

A Metroland community newspaper  
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# OPINION

## Views ON THE News

A FORUM FOR PUBLIC OPINION

**Q:** On Oct. 22, former prime minister Brian Mulroney received the Order of Canada, this country's highest honour. Do you think he deserves this award, and why?

No. I can't think of any reason why he should and lots of reasons why he shouldn't.

WILLIAM RICK

I am very glad that Brian Mulroney received Canada's highest award. When Mulroney was cleared from all wrong-doing in the Air Bus fiasco, he refused to accept a phone call from (Prime Minister Jean) Chretien. A second award should be forthcoming for dignity. A lesser man would have folded.

J. SHAW

No. I cannot believe the stupidity of giving that idiot (who totally destroyed this country) any kind of award. A jail sentence is what he deserves.

M. DAVIDSON

No. I don't think he deserves the Order of Canada. I think he did all right as a prime minister, but I don't think he did anything out of the ordinary to deserve it.

FRANK BERNHARDT

Yes. I do think he deserves the award because although he wasn't overly popular, he put into place a lot of successful policies the Liberals criticized while in opposition, but have maintained.

BEVERLY WILTON

Yes. I think he deserved the award. He was elected twice by the majority of the people. He did free trade and GST, and now they still have his ideas running and expanding.

BOB FINDLAY

No. I don't think he deserves the Order of Canada. His job performance as the prime minister was lousy for our country. There seemed to be a lot of things going on in the background that weren't right.

DAVE NACARATO

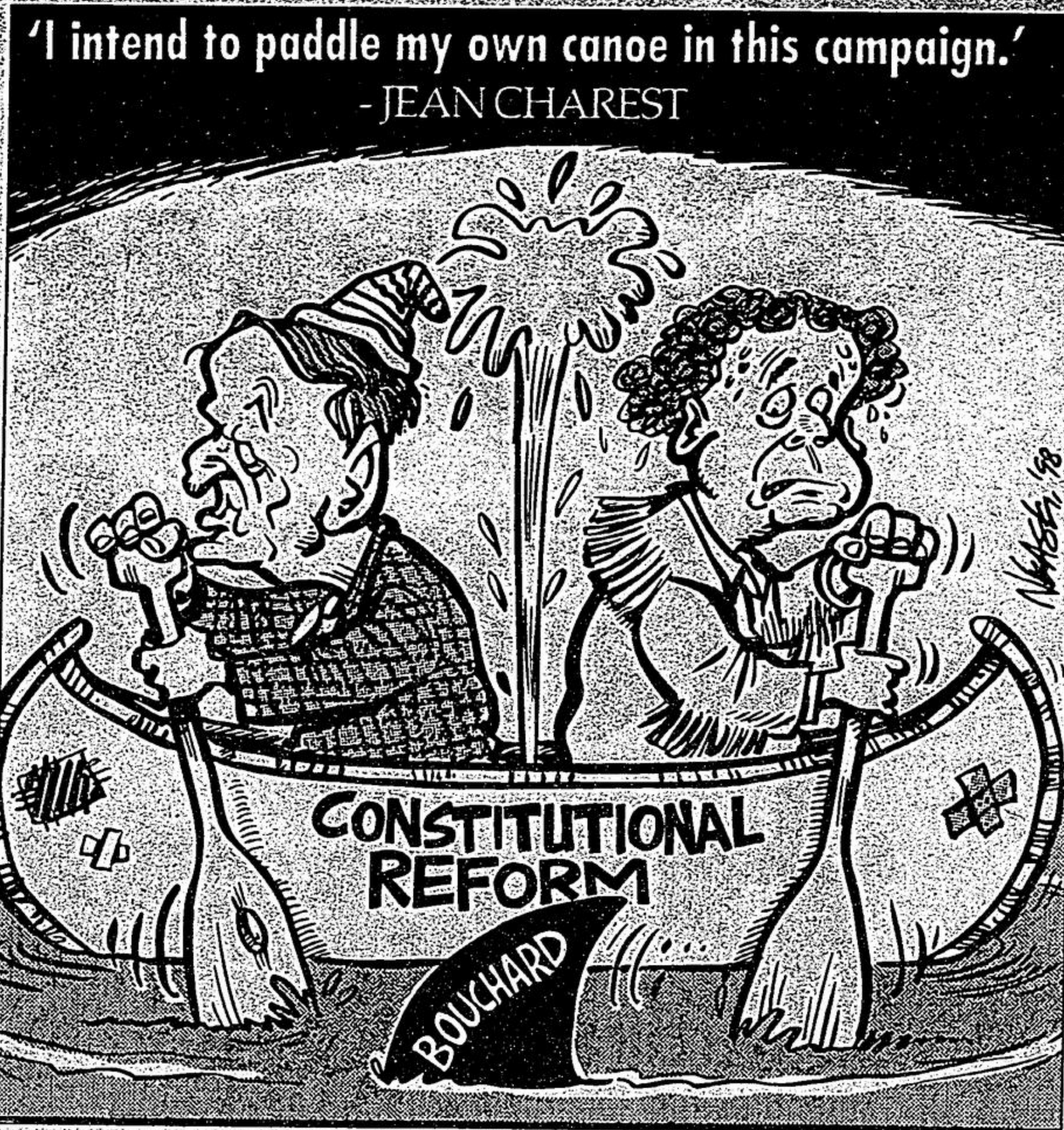
No. I don't think he deserves the award. I don't agree with the GST system that Brian Mulroney installed. I also don't think he did anything special to receive the award. There are better people who deserve it.

WASANTHA ABEYWARDENA

## THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Police are having a difficult time with teens using and pointing replica guns — fakes, which look so real it takes close inspection to determine they are, indeed, fake. These replicas are legal to purchase. Should merchants be allowed to sell these fake weapons?

Submit contributions to  
Views on the News, fax: (905) 640-5477  
E-mail: thetrib@istar.ca



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Let's be squeaky wheel

Continuing Education for Adults has been killed at Stouffville District Secondary School by the York District Board of Education, and the crime has gone undetected.

The computer room, workshop and classrooms are dark and silent at night. Education is a life-long process and Stouffville residents are being denied the use of these facilities.

It is unreasonable to be expected to drive to Newmarket or Aurora locations in the winter when local facilities could be made available.

As education taxes represent approximately 42 per cent of the realty assessment, it is unfortunate that the school facilities are not available to all residents of Stouffville, irrespective of their age.

Those concerned, and I would hope all adults, should make their views known to school trustee Virginia Hackson. Seniors may wish to consider the option of withholding the education portion of their realty taxes.

A squeaky wheel gets attention.

ROBERT J. ALEXANDER  
STOUFFVILLE

### No winners in school battle

One year ago, on Oct. 27, 126,000 teachers and educational workers reluctantly left their classrooms, their students, their income and the security of their employment to take a stand for public education.

For two weeks, the education system

in Ontario was at a virtual standstill and, during this time, the Tory agenda concerning education was finally revealed to the people of Ontario.

Bill 160, the Education Quality Improvement Act, was the focal point in this political standoff.

One year later, the education crisis developed a life of its own. The government, using a "divide and conquer" strategy, has pitted boards against teacher federations, parents against teachers, students against teachers, taxpayers against boards, and, more recently, the educational communities against the Tories.

In this battle, however, there may not be any winners. The changes being made to our education system by this government are not about improvement.

The changes are about crippling and destroying yet another system within our social network as part of their plan to create a two-tiered society.

Many people now understand that Bill 160 has very little to do with education improvement and everything to do with centralizing control over education at Queen's Park.

When the Tories finally call an election, we must remember what they have done, what they are doing to the very fabric of our society and what they are not doing for the future of Ontario.

If, as they say, the future is in the hands of today's kids, then what the Tories are doing is certainly not putting kids first.

CYNDIE JACOBS  
COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER OSSIF, DISTRICT-16



Dave Teetzel

## Sex and the disappearing rainforest

Many media observers are questioning whether the Toronto Sun will be able to retain its character and perspective if TorStar purchases Sun Media.

By media observers, of course, I mean people employed by the media. Everyone else just watches and reads and couldn't care less about this stuff.

But for the benefit of observers, here's what you're likely to be reading in The Sun this time next year. It's part 31 of the Sun Sex Survey: Sex and Jobless, Socially Disadvantaged Single Mothers.

Bubbles is a green-eyed Leo who enjoys dancing, snowboarding and marching for the rights of exploited child labourers in Afghanistan. She used to enjoy sex until Mike Harris came along.

"Ever since those right-wing demagogues cut my pogy, I can't afford a new bikini, can't afford no implants, can't even get my nails done," she said.

"How am I supposed to get any action cruising the beach in my ratty old bikini?" she sobbed.

### She used to enjoy sex until Mike Harris came along.

Research from the Department of Women's Studies at York University confirms this phenomenon.

In 1995, 37.2 per cent of single women with annual incomes under \$20,000 had sex three or more times a week. Today, that has dropped to a mere 12.8 per cent.

"Clearly, the ascendance of the running dog corporate culture has had a tragic impact on the sexual satisfaction of low-income women," said Prof. Gabrielle Green. "This is the worst thing to happen to sex since men."

Popular Leafs star Tie Dummi is also concerned about the impact of welfare cuts on hot-lookin' babes.

"I like my hockey groupies dressed nice. If I can earn \$7 million a year to beat guys up, they should be givin' chicks some cash to be sexy," said Dummi.

The Sun sex survey found 75.2 per cent of professional athletes insisted that their one-night stands be well-dressed and well-groomed, compared to a mere 45.6 per cent that insisted they be conscious and over the age of consent.

Tomorrow: Sex and the Disappearing Rainforest.

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