

*'If you believe in something, you fight for it. If you go in a closet, how do you know if anybody agrees with you?'*

## Jones defends proposal to run for two parties as 'realistic'

BY MIKE ADLER  
Staff Writer

Markham MP Jim Jones, expelled from the Tory caucus last week for announcing he will seek the riding's Canadian Alliance nomination, says he was only doing what most of his constituents wanted.

In a letter sent exclusively to his Tory supporters and readers of this newspaper, he defended his plan to run for both the Alliance and Tory nominations in Markham as "a realistic and workable proposal."

Most people he met told him having a single Conservative candidate in Markham and other closely fought ridings was the only way to break the Liberals' grip on Canada, Jones said in the letter. "The overwhelming majority of you have expressed concern that the current vote-splitting situation must be addressed."

### CAN'T PLAY FOR 2 TEAMS

"If you believe in something you fight for it," Jones added in an interview. "If you go in a closet, how do you know if anybody agrees with you?"

Tory leader Joe Clark has fought with Jones and other Tories who favour co-operation with the Alliance or running shared candidates in the next election.

Clark quickly expelled Jones, his party's industry critic, from the caucus after he announced his plans Wednesday.

"You can't play for two teams at the same time," Clark told reporters late Wednesday afternoon.

"He knew the consequences. He's going to have to live with the consequences."

Yesterday, Jones, who expressed surprise at the expulsion, said he still believes he can run in Markham under the Tory banner and still had hopes of returning to the caucus. "If I had



**JIM JONES:** Expelled MP says he was doing what most of his constituents wanted him to by attempting to prevent conservative vote split.

been given the opportunity to explain, I think it wouldn't have happened," he said.

The rookie MP said he decided openly what to do about a problem several Tory riding associations are struggling with in private.

He didn't deny he had recently worked with former Tory leadership contender Brian Pallister on Common Ground, a committee that solicited Tory associations to promote a joint Conservative-Alliance candidate selection in their ridings.

Clark and Tory party officials had warned Pallister and Jones to stop, but Jones continued his support.

"We're hoping to change the mindset of a party," Jones explained.

Markham Conservative riding president Rod Stableforth said the MP's actions this week were premature.

"He's trying to carve a path here and I wish he waited a little longer before he tried to carve it," he said.

There are still Tories in Markham who are firmly against working with the Alliance and Jones faces a "tidal wave of flak"

from Conservatives moving to unseat him at nomination time, Stableforth warned Thursday. "I know there are people who are actively searching now who weren't searching before."

Jones said he decided to endorse Alliance leadership candidate Stockwell Day this week because he wanted to discourage people from voting for Day's rival, Preston Manning, who Jones said is less likely to work for a compromise among conservatives.

Local organizers for Day said the campaign had no discussions or any other contact with Jones, but welcomed his endorsement.

"It's no mystery to anybody that he's had his troubles with Mr. Clark," added Kirk Sutherland, Day's York Region campaign chief and a former Tory vice-president in Markham who, like Jones, supports running a single conservative candidate to end vote-splitting.

### BOLD LEADERSHIP

Day issued a news release saying Jones "has demonstrated bold leadership" with actions that are in the best interests of all Canadians who want a change of government.

"I am committed to doing whatever I can to assist him in his efforts to stop vote-splitting in Ontario," Day said.

Line Maheux, a Day spokesperson, said if Jones wins Markham's Alliance nomination, Day "would try to work with the Progressive Conservatives to see that there wouldn't be opposing (Tory and Alliance) candidates".

An IBM executive and certified general accountant, Jones was serving a third term as a Markham councillor when he was elected in 1997.

The incumbent in that election was Jag Bhaduria, who was sitting as an independent after being ousted by the Liberals.

BREAST HEALTH EVERY WOMAN'S RIGHT... EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DU CANCER

Take responsibility for your own Breast Health... become more knowledgeable and less fearful about breast cancer. We're here to offer support with trained Breast Health speakers and timely information. Call us - we're the Canadian Cancer Society. We want to help you learn more about positive Breast Health behaviour.

For more information, contact your local Canadian Cancer Society office. **It could save your life!**

This message brought to you as a community service of The Economist & Sun/Tribune

**TECH ELECTRONICS & APPLIANCE SERVICES**

TEL: 905-472-4168  
FAX: 905-472-4165

**IN HOME AND SHOP SERVICES**

**SPECIALIZING IN**

- \* Tvs
- \* Stereos
- \* Microwaves
- \* Amps
- \* Vcrs
- \* Cd Players
- \* Receivers
- \* Camcorders
- \* Window Air Conditioners

(NORTH EAST CORNER OF McCOWAN & HWY. 7)  
**8515 McCOWAN RD., MARKHAM ONT. L3P 5E4**

**STRAWBERRIES**

PICK YOUR OWN or READY PICKED AVAILABLE (Supply permitting)

**Zdanowicz Farm**

**RASPBERRIES COMING SOON**

**HOURS:**  
Open Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Sat., Sun. & Holidays 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

NW CORNER AT TAUNTON & CORONATION ROADS  
Bring Containers or purchase at Farm  
Call 668-5509 for picking days and picking information.

**PREMIER FITNESS CLUBS**

**SUMMER SALE**

One Full Year **\$199\*\***

please call Markus at: **(905) 475-6888**  
60 Esna Park Drive, Markham

\*Time limited offer. Membership valid at the location of enrollment only. Some restrictions apply. © 2001 NW

**Improve their Grades and Confidence!**

Our individualized learning program will help your child learn to think, focus, and rediscover motivation at school.

**OXFORD LEARNING CENTRES®**

www.oxfordlearning.com

ASK ABOUT OUR SUMMER CAMPS

UNIONVILLE (Highway 7 near Kennedy) **513-8186**

**Learning for School - Learning for Life!**

READING · WRITING · SPELLING · FRENCH · MATH · STUDY SKILLS · LITTLE READERS