

Tsubouchi skips school debates

Dave Tsubouchi doesn't seem eager to meet the next generation of voters.

Because of his apparent inability to show up, Markham's Tory incumbent has forced at least two high schools in the riding to cancel all-candidates events for students. A third school's debate will go on without him.

"It has to do with scheduling difficulties and timing," said D'Arcy Pigott, the MPP's campaign chairperson.

Staff at Unionville High School said Mr. Tsubouchi's office refused several dates for a debate. Nor would he send a

substitute. Lacking a complete slate of candidates, the debate was dropped, as was one planned at Markville Secondary School.

"We thought we could do something important for our students and expose them to the issues," said Graham Draper, a supervising teacher at Markville.

Since Ontario no longer has an OAC year, few of the students can vote, Mr. Draper acknowledged, but added they can certainly vote in the next election.

Other Markham candidates took a dim view of Mr. Tsubouchi's

scheduling. Green Party's Bernadette Manning called his refusal to attend undemocratic.

"It's easy to stick brochures in doors, but what we really need is for Mr. Tsubouchi to answer for what he's done the last few years," New Democrat Janice Hagan added.

Mr. Pigott, however, said he finds such criticism "a little heavy-handed", since Mr. Tsubouchi has attended such events in the past and would have responded to students' written questions.

—Mike Adler

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- Mario Polinelli
- Omega Entertainment Band
- Philippine Heritage Dance Company
- Trusha Shah, Puja Sheth, Almee Shah and Palak Shah
- Paula Scala (Chair)
- Amina Jamal
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- Gina Rosen
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- Yoly Ladines
- Zafar Bangash
- Zeib Jeeva

A special thank you to our entertainers for their wonderful performances, the volunteers for their dedication, the Hospital's Facilities, Environmental and Food Services staff, the Organizing Committee, and everyone behind the scenes who helped make this a successful event.

- Entertainment**
- Special thank you to:
- Suhana Meharchand (CBC Newsworld) Emcee
 - Frank Scarpitti, Deputy Mayor, Co-Emcee
 - Chris Madsen, Stage Manager and his crew
 - Avni and Forum Shah
 - Errol Lee - Edutainer
 - Greek Cypriot Sensation Dance Group
 - Kall de Leon International
- Organizing Committee**

Winners of the Tastes of Our Community Raffle Draw are listed below. Please contact the Foundation at 905-472-7579 to claim your prize.

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- Nikhil Louca
- Donna Mazkew
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- Mary Polychronis
- Maria Polistano
- S. Rizak
- B. Smith
- Alexandra Stokovska
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- Mary Tassos
- Steven Taylor

The Event raised over \$8,500 for the Hospital Foundation. Thank you for Making It Great!!!