

WHO'S RUNNING

York Region's seven ridings and the candidates, so far, are as follows:

- Markham-Unionville** — Jessica Fracassi, Green Party; Joe Li, Conservative; John McCallum, Liberal
- Newmarket-Aurora** — Donan Baxter, Progressive Conservative; Ed Chudak, NDP; Martha Hall Findlay, Liberal; Belinda Stronach, Conservative
- Oak Ridges-Markham** — Bob Callow, Conservative; Michael Crang, NDP; Bernadette Manning, Green Party; Liu Temelkovski, Liberal
- Richmond Hill** — Nella Cotrupi, NDP; Peter Merrifield, Conservative; Tim Rudkins, Green Party; Bryon Wilfert, Liberal
- Thornhill** — Josh Cooper, Conservative; Susan Kadis, Liberal
- Vaughan** — Maurizio Bevilacqua, Liberal; Paola Fabrizia, Libertarian; Russell Korus, Green Party; Joe Spina, Conservative
- York-Simcoe** — Sylvia Geri, NDP; Peter Van Loan, Conservative; Kate Wilson, Liberal

Stage set for June election: candidates

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campaign office and the phones are going in tomorrow."

He also believes most Canadians are prepared for an election, even though the government could wait until November, 2005.

"Mr. Martin has primed the pump for an election and people are not looking forward to having to wait for the fall or next year," he said.

Steve Delduca, campaign manager for Thornhill Liberal candidate Susan Kadis, says the team has been ready since May 9. "The office is up and running and canvassing on the telephone and door-to-door," Mr. Delduca said. "Susan is working hard, she's already on the hustings."

At the Belinda Stronach headquarters in Newmarket-Aurora, there's an air of frustration the writ hasn't come yet. Ms. Stronach announced her candidacy — along with plans to be the



BOB CALLOW: Prime minister has voters ready for election, Conservative candidate says.

Conservative Party leader — in January.

Peter Seeman, co-chairperson for the high-profile candidate, is downright impatient.

"I want this sucker to get started a.s.a.p.; there's a whole issue of momentum," Mr. Seeman said.

Jack Hurst, another member of

the campaign team, thinks the prime minister will drop the writ within the next week. "There's too many things happening; (the government) will call it governing, but it's really pre-electioneering," Mr. Hurst said. "So many things are being announced but there's not a lot being done in Parliament."

In a telephone call from Ottawa, Liberal MP Bryon Wilfert, who will be running in Richmond Hill, said he wasn't ready to reveal plans, other than the fact he is ready to go.

"Everything's in place, especially the great team of people, many who've been with me since I was first elected in 1985," Mr. Wilfert said.

Kate Wilson, the Liberal candidate in York-Simcoe, which straddles both sides of Lake Simcoe, has offices in Bradford West Gwillimbury and in Sutton.

"It would probably be advantageous for all the candidates if the call came later, rather than sooner," Ms. Wilson said. "This is such a vast riding, it would give us all a lit-

tle more time. But we're ready, you do what you have to do when the writ is dropped."

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Someone who is definitely not ready for a June call is Bridget Haworth, whose website lists her as Green Party candidate in Thornhill.

"I'm not officially the candidate. I was the provincial candidate and I could be the federal candidate, but I haven't signed up officially," Ms. Haworth said. "I have a project that is every bit as environmental as running for the Green Party and (whether I run) depends on where I am with my work. If (the election) does get called soon, it's probably the most inconvenient time for me."

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