

Ontario  VOTES

RESULTS

As of 11 p.m. yesterday

OAK RIDGES - MARKHAM



| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| Helena Jaczek (Lib) | 22,712 |
| Phil Bannon (PC) | 16,594 |
| Janice Hagan (NDP) | 3,700 |
| Attila Nagy (Green) | 3,004 |
| Patrick Redmond (FC) | 386 |
| Douglas Ransom (Ind) | 254 |

*291 of 344 polls reporting

OTHER YORK RIDINGS

RICHMOND HILL

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| Reza Moridi (Lib) | 6,051 |
| Alex Yuan (PC) | 4,704 |
| Nella Cotrupi (NDP) | 1,060 |
| Liz Couture (Green) | 923 |

THORNHILL

| | |
|------------------------|--------|
| Peter Shurman (PC) | 17,545 |
| Mario Racco (Lib) | 16,708 |
| Sandra Parrott (NDP) | 2,173 |
| Lloyd Helferty (Green) | 2,149 |

VAUGHAN

| | |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Gregory Sorbara (Lib) | 10,547 |
| Guyani Weerasinghe (PC) | 3,307 |
| Rick Morelli (NDP) | 1,908 |
| Russell Korus (Green) | 1,184 |



NEWMARKET-AURORA

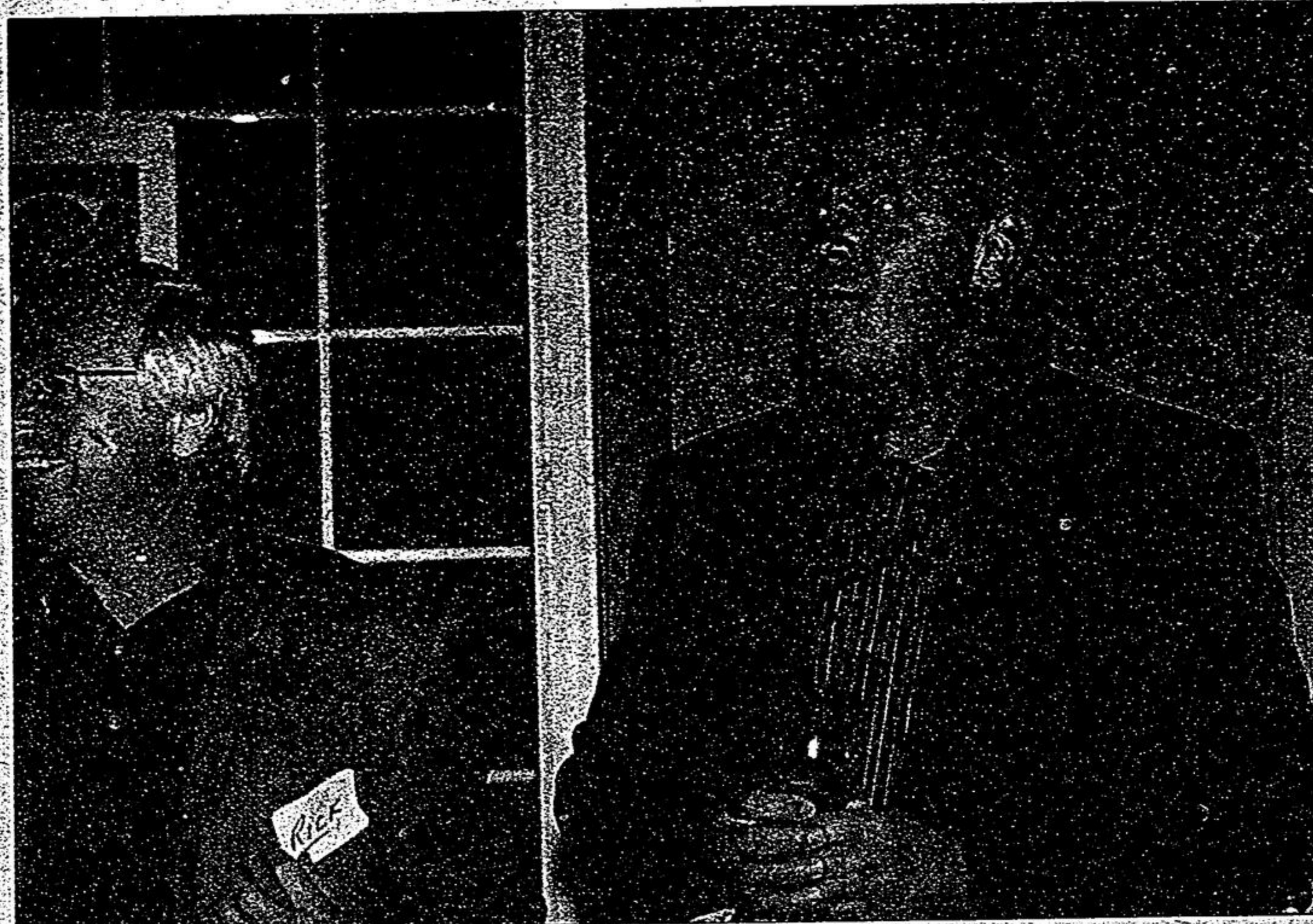
| | |
|------------------------|--------|
| Frank Klees (PC) | 13,942 |
| Christina Bisanz (Lib) | 13,238 |
| John McRogers (Green) | 3,145 |
| Mike Seaward (NDP) | 2,417 |

YORK-SIMCOE

| | |
|----------------------|-------|
| Julia Munro (PC) | 6,849 |
| John Gilbank (Lib) | 4,241 |
| Jim Reeves (Green) | 1,742 |
| Nancy Morrison (NDP) | 1,472 |

MARKHAM-UNIONVILLE

| | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Michael Chan (Lib) | 10,484 |
| Ki Kit Li (PC) | 4,815 |
| Andy Arifin (NDP) | 1,330 |
| Bernadette Manning (Green) | 1,026 |
| Leon Williams (FC) | 175 |



STAFF PHOTO/SUSIE KOCKERSCHIEDT

Phil Bannon (right) watches numbers come in with supporters at Willow Springs Winery Wednesday night. The Conservative candidate was defeated by Liberal Helena Jaczek.

Faith funding sunk Tories, Bannon says

Loss to Liberal Jaczek surprises town's deputy mayor

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
Staff Writer

Despite weeks of talking and listening to hundreds of residents, putting up election signs and trying to get the Progressive Conservative message out, Phil Bannon was defeated by Liberal Helena Jaczek, who took an early lead and led decisively at press deadline last night.

The Whitchurch-Stouffville deputy mayor, who had hoped to be the Progressive Conservative MPP for the Oak Ridges-Markham riding, couldn't convince enough voters to turn the riding blue.

Party supporters, friends and family anxiously awaited the election results with Mr. Bannon and his wife, Janice, and their daughters, Ashlea and Denise, at the Willow Springs Winery on the outskirts of Stouffville last night.

Mr. Bannon's brother, Jack, and his wife, Rene, travelled from Quebec to support him.

Mr. Bannon campaigned in the provincial election for a chance to work on the John Tory team for better health care, lower taxes, better transit and road systems and increased community safety.

He felt education funding for faith-based schools originally proposed by Mr. Tory was the main issue that threw a monkey wrench into the outcome of the election.

"I am surprised by the numbers, because a lot of people indicated they would support me," Mr. Bannon said.

"The numbers certainly reflect the provincial forecast for the party."

Mr. Bannon said he reached out to many diverse communities including Tamil and Armenian Canadians.

He had no trouble being nominated as the PC candidate. Even though he declared his candidacy only three weeks before the nomination meeting in June, he received a majority and was nominated after the second ballot.

The 55-year-old former staff sergeant was with the Toronto Police Services for 32 years before retiring and also has

experience as the vice-president of a successful transportation company.

He was elected to municipal council in 2003, becoming the councillor for a rural ward in northern Whitchurch-Stouffville.

While on municipal council, he has been an advocate for taxpayers, objecting to what he felt were excessive municipal tax increases.

He, along with Councillor Rob Hargrave, also advocated having the town's budget meeting dates changed to the spring, so budgets could be calculated using actual, instead of estimated, figures.

As a board member of Markham Stouffville Hospital, he will continue to push for an expansion of the hospital as soon as possible.

Mr. Bannon worked to have speed limits reduced on several roads and arranged to have York Region Police conduct truck blitzes.

He helped raise money for causes, including Bloomington Cove, a long-term care facility, for the new Parkview Home for Seniors and for Stouffville's new arts and culture centre.

ELECTION NOTES

Cross-town trek to vote for some

After 36 years, Eileen Gayton had to vote at a different location.

She wasn't happy about it.

Usually, the rural Whitchurch-Stouffville resident casts her ballot at the Ballantrae Community Centre on Aurora Road.

That's about a five-minute drive from her house.

Today, she had to go to the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals headquarters at Woodbine Avenue and Vivian Road.

The drive, from one side of Whitchurch-Stouffville to the other, took at least 15 minutes and took her past three polling locations in Ballantrae.

"It is most annoying," she said.

She returned from a trip to British Columbia Tuesday to get the news.

The location changes for Mrs. Gayton and her neighbours are because of new boundary changes by Elections Ontario.

New polling divisions were drawn up, Paula Chung, a spokesperson for Elections Ontario explained.

Instead of 103 electoral districts, Ontario now has 107.

"There have been a lot of changes to polling divisions," Ms Chung said.

She added the boundaries are changed every 10 years.

Hannelore Volpe

Seniors vote early and often

Location does seem to matter when it comes to getting voters out.

Around 1:30 p.m. yesterday, between 10 and 12 per cent of voters had cast their ballots at Ballantrae Public School on Aurora Road.

There was a steady flow of voters since the polls opened, with a few busy periods, an elections worker said.

Only a couple of people had come to this poll in rural Whitchurch-Stouffville with multiple voter cards due to revisions.

The numbers were different at St. Mark Catholic School in Stouffville, where about 20 per cent of voters had already cast their ballots by around 2 p.m. St. Mark students greeted voters and opened the doors for them as they approached the gym, where voting was taking place.

Only one person didn't bring in a voter card, an election worker said, and that was because the person was in the process of moving.

One newlywed senior came to vote, even though he'd had just moved to the area a few weeks ago.

The relatively high voter turnout is due to the number of seniors residences close by, Donna Lee Sison, the supervising deputy returning officer, said.

She and her staff were bracing themselves for voters coming in the evening, because of the many newcomers to the area.

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