

7 fight for seat on city council

Monday's ward 3 byelection will fill Frank Bean's vacant chair



Doug Bennett

Doug Bennett has a master's degree in Political Philosophy and Canadian Government, but this is the first try for office for the 30-year-old publishing company employee.

A resident of ward 3 for 16 years, Bennett and his wife Lynne moved to ward 8 less than a year ago to buy their first home. Bennett says if elected he'll move back into the ward.

The former Appplewood Heights valedictorian says that his success in a number of areas including real estate, employment with the provincial Environment Ministry and his academic success show that he's successful at his endeavors.

A supporter of a residential development strategy, Bennett says the anticipated growth rate of 12,000 people per year until 1986 is adequate.

He says council should be more concerned about developing a long-term industrial strategy to offset the "atrocious imbalance" in industrial and residential development.

Bennett says a common sense approach to staging development will also allow the upgrading of services while holding down taxes. Bennett, who completed four years of graduate work for his PHD on social change in Canadian federalism, says a service reduction such as council's decision to force residents to shovel their own sidewalks is just "paper savings" because it only saves \$1 per taxpayer. "A snow shovel costs more," he notes.



Rob Bradford

Rob Bradford feels betrayed by some of the councillors who were elected in last November's municipal election.

Last year Bradford campaigned with those councillors and, like them, pledged fiscal responsibility. He says they haven't kept their pledge by voting themselves a 50 per cent pay raise.

"The voters now need a commitment from their candidates to prove they will keep their word," says Bradford. "Mine is that I will not personally accept the pay raise, but will instead use it to establish a regular ward 3 newsletter. If the other candidates accept the raise even though they say they were opposed to it at the time it was accepted, they're setting a dangerous double standard."

Bradford believes Mississauga is at a crucial stage in its growth and needs basic guidelines in order to ensure planned development. He says initial emphasis on development should be placed on the city core so a sense of city identity can be fostered. He says the development of regional subcentres could then follow.

Bradford, 25, a journalist with a daily business newspaper, has lived in ward 3 for the past 13 years.

He favors an efficient public transportation system, but says equal consideration must be given to people who use cars. He believes Mississauga will need more and better roads in the future, but says he would prefer to study the plans for Burnhamthorpe Road before deciding if it should be widened.



Flo Delellis

Flo Delellis says city council must change its attitude toward land development to ensure better supervision.

Delellis, 27, an insurance claims examiner, says she decided to run in the ward 3 byelection because she was dissatisfied with the services provided in her own Cherry Hill subdivision.

"I want to be informed by the city on what is being planned for my own area," she says. "I feel I'm being taken advantage of. The grass is not being cut along the boulevards, trees that were promised have still not been planted and my car muffler has fallen off because of the potholes on my street."

Delellis thinks property taxes should be frozen until better services can be provided for residents. She has lived in Mississauga for three years and during that time has been active with the Cherry Hill Residents' Association.

Delellis says she would like to see more parks in Mississauga and the "strip" along Dundas Street cleaned up so it would be more attractive.

She says she doesn't think the widening of Burnhamthorpe Road was necessary, but would like to study the plans for the area before making a final decision.

Delellis plans to make public her campaign expenses. She says she is opposed to the 50 per cent salary increase the councillors voted themselves this term



Terry Harrison

Mississauga Concerned Citizens (MCC) founder Terry Harrison says he has spent more time in council chambers over the past six months than any of his competitors for the ward 3 seat.

"I'm the only guy in Mississauga who went to work on the pay raise issue, researched it and then went to council to fight about it," says Harrison, who founded the MCC when council awarded itself a 48 per cent salary increase. "I've demonstrated over the last six months that I mean what I say."

Some criticism has been levelled at Harrison about the sudden inactiveness of the MCC and his decision to run for council.

"Anybody that says I put together the MCC as an election ploy is off their perch," the 42-year-old native of England charges.

Harrison says he will move into ward 3 within 30 days of his victory.

Harrison, a mining engineer by trade says his business background, ability to work as a full-time councillor and interest in research makes him the only alternative.

Harrison says he will not accept more than \$14,400 of his \$28,000 salary as a ward 3 councillor if elected.

Phasing, is not viable in Harrison's opinion because it is too rigid for a growing city like Mississauga.

The widening of Burnhamthorpe Road should take place east of the Burnhamthorpe Bridge.



Mike Krywenky

Mike Krywenky, a second-time contender for the ward 3 council seat, believes the major issue in the byelection is Mississauga's residential development strategy.

He says a sound, overall strategy is needed in the ward's new areas north of Burnhamthorpe Road so development does not spring up as a result of arbitrary decisions.

Krywenky, 23, polled more than 1,000 votes in last November's municipal election, coming second to Frank Bean in the ward's three-way race. An account executive with Tradex International System, he is a member of the Task Force on Human Relations, the education sub-committee of the task force and Counter-Act, the Mississauga anti-vandalism committee.

He has lived in the ward 15 years.

Krywenky says there should be more communication between council, community organizations and school boards. He says, closer ties would promote more awareness of what each body is doing and would decrease duplication of programs.

Krywenky declines comment on whether Burnhamthorpe Road should be widened, saying he would like to study the issue further.

He says he will make public his election expenses and to work to find new ways to make council more efficient.

He says he would not have supported the councillors' 50 per cent raise if he had been a member of council at the time.



Don Lavis

Mississauga chiropractor Don Lavis used to drive 200 miles to Severn Falls, at least once a month, to perform his duties as a councillor in the village of Matchedash, where he owns a cottage.

It's this dedication that Lavis says he will employ if elected ward 3's new councillor on Monday.

Lavis was a Matchedash councillor from 1972 to 1976 until he decided to run against Frank Bean at the end of his 1976 term. He didn't run against Peel's new chairman in November because "Bean was doing a very satisfactory job."

Lavis has served as the Appplewood Hills Homeowners Association's treasurer, executive vice-president and governmental affairs liaison in the three years (1975-1977) he was a member of that ratepayer organization.

Lavis says city hall must watch its duplication of services and cut down "red tape" in order to trim its budget.

Attracting industry to offset the tax burden on local citizens is Lavis' primary concern.

Phasing looks attractive to Lavis because the continuous growth of the city requires good planning.

Though he admits he knows very little about what is required of a Mississauga councillor, Lavis told The Times he thinks "the councillors are paid what they're worth."

Lavis, 45, is married and is the father of three children.



Rudy Skjarum

Bank executive Rudy Skjarum says his record as an informed and dedicated resident of ward 3 for 11 years makes him the best candidate for the job.

He says a councillor should live in the ward and that he should have a working knowledge of the community problems. As acting president of the Forest Glen Community Association, Skjarum sits on the ward 3 ratepayers' council.

The 42-year-old father of three says he's "100 per cent" against the raise city councillors voted themselves earlier this year. He says a five per cent hike would have been in order.

Skjarum, a girls' baseball coach, also says that council should adopt a formula for annual increases, but shouldn't give itself a raise next year because of the \$5,359 increase in 1979. He'd like to see raises become an election issue, with action taken after council is elected.

On the issue of a residential development strategy for the city, Skjarum says that "phasing makes a lot of sense to me." But he adds that he would like to study the issue much more carefully before taking a definitive position. That's also the way he feels about potential widening of Burnhamthorpe Road.

His 24 years of banking experience will be valuable in budget discussions, Skjarum says. He would like to see council determine long-term fiscal policies and live by them.

Candidates want to clean up ward 3 plazas

By JOHN STEWART
Times staff writer

It wasn't until the problem of young people hanging around plazas was raised last week at the ward 3 all-candidates meeting that things livened up.

Rudy Skjarum touched some nerves when he mentioned that he'd like to see more police patrols to "break-up" groups causing problems. That brought screams of "police state" from ward 4 resident Valentine Cato, who was earlier considering running

for the vacant council seat.

Skjarum said the beating death of Robert Cooke outside the Fieldgate Plaza had raised much concern in the community. "When someone's afraid to go to the milk store, I get concerned," he said.

Skjarum promised to clean up the plazas both of debris and "the quality of individual who seems to be hanging around."

Michael Krywenky, who called for a minute of silence for Cooke during his address, recommended establishment

of community youth centres, perhaps in schools, as one way of dealing with the "more deep-rooted problem."

Krywenky said that "up until last Saturday night, vandalism was a concern. Now it's a top priority."

Doug Bennett said the plaza problem would not be solved by the police but he agreed with Skjarum that a "police presence at problem times does help."

Terry Harrison commented that "we made an awful mistake when we

took God out of the classroom."

The only other issue which seemed to stir much controversy was party politics in municipal government. Bennett was asked from the audience whether he was "backed by the NDP."

He said he had their support along with that of some Conservative and Liberal party members. He said there was no place for party lines in local affairs and accused Skjarum of being backed by the "Big Blue Machine."

Skjarum said he would be an independent voice even though he is a Conservative like most of the rest of city councillors.

Flo Delellis, a working mother, called for a lid to be placed on property taxes and for the prevention of ugly strip plazas. She said incidents like the death at Forest Glen plaza could be avoided "with a proper foundation of morals and religion" but at the moment she claimed, "young people don't have the tools to cope."