

# York Centre contenders for federal seat

By James Carlisle

There are two declared candidates for the May 22 federal election in York's riding of York Centre—Vince Del Buono of the NDP and Bob Kaplan of the Liberals.

Both candidates are basing their campaigns on the Liberals' record but with very different interpretations of it and the outcome is far from clear, especially as the Conservatives are still a question mark in York Centre. Because of the recent death of the P.C. candidate the Conservatives have called a new nomination meeting.



VINCE DEL BUONO

For NDPer Del Buono the key issues in the campaign are unemployment and the economy. He feels that the Liberals are not sincere in their statements of concern over unemployment. "The Liberals are really misleading us in terms of the number of jobs that they've created because there is record unemployment, especially in Metropolitan Toronto and Southern Ontario." He claims that Statistics Canada should include the many women who are secondary wage earners in its figures to show the full magnitude of the problem.

Del Buono charges that a disproportionate amount of the money for job creation is going to Quebec. He also believes that "The job creation programme now going on by the Liberals is not for economic purposes but for their political purposes."

The economic record of the Liberals is closely allied to the unemployment problem in Del Buono's view. He contends that the Liberals are continually selling off our natural resources in order to prop up our ailing economy.

The solution, according to Del Buono, is for government to intervene to stimulate job creation, especially for young people and women. He contends that "We've got to take control again of our economic destiny." Del Buono contends that up to now the government has been implementing short-term measures when long-term solutions are needed, especially the creation of jobs in manufacturing, research and development.

Concerning national unity Del Buono accuses the Liberals of having gone beyond even cynicism in their claims to be the only party which can save the country. He says that "To ask Pierre Elliott Trudeau to deal with the national unity issue is like asking Boston Strangler to straighten your tie."

ROBERT KAPLAN

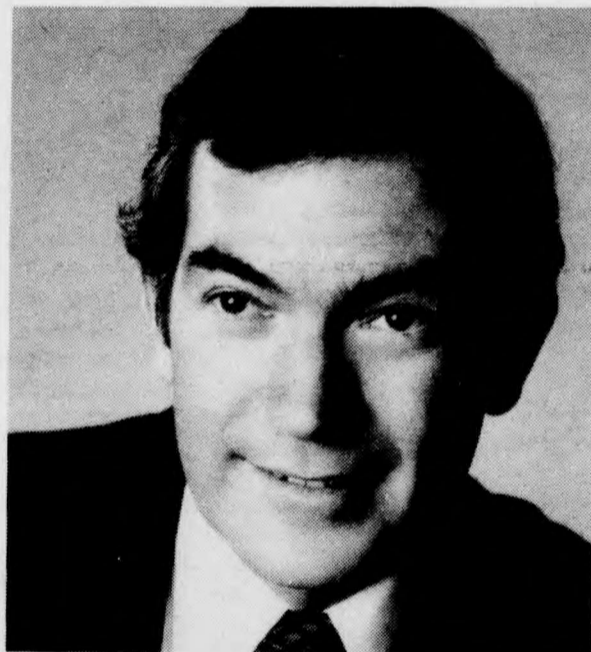
To Liberal Bob Kaplan the main issues in York Centre are national unity and the performance of the economy.

According to Kaplan "National unity is an issue of enormous importance." He sees the issue as a general one, not just as a problem with Quebec. "The fact is that the provincial governments are pulling and pulling to reduce the authority of Ottawa in one area after the other... The Liberals want to ensure a strong central government that can cope and answer the problems that are being raised in this Dominion."

As member of the Committee for an Independent Canada Kaplan has been in the forefront of the Liberals fight for Canadian economic autonomy through the creation of PetroCanada and the passing of the foreign investment review act. The performance of the Canadian economy must be seen in an international context.

As our member of parliament, Bob Kaplan has had close relations with York University. He has regularly spoken to classes in law, political science and business. Kaplan has used the university as a resource— as chairman of the House of Commons finance committee he has consulted with economists at York to try out new ideas. Kaplan has also represented the university's interests. "I have always considered myself the university's ambassador in Ottawa. When things have come along where York might have gotten less I have stepped in and tried to make sure that York gets more."

Kaplan was directly responsible for York getting \$250,000 for the track and field complex, and then a further \$300,000 from the government when the complex went over its budget.



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