

The candidates

# Prostitution and forces concern McInnes

By JOAN SULLIVAN

Women's and youth votes have attracted a lot of attention from politicians this election, but Stewart McInnes isn't targeting these groups.

McInnes, the PC candidate for Halifax, said he has difficulty "discussing these groups in isolation." He insists the interests of these specific groups are "fundamental to all Canadians."

"The issue of attracting the youth vote and women's vote has been raised, but having addressed them one comes to the realization that (their problems) have common denominators peculiar to everybody."

Still, McInnes has some complaints about the federal government's treatment of these groups.

He called the large number of older women living in poverty a national disgrace, and added "Mr. Mulroney is very concerned about this unpalatable situation."

Mulroney will enforce equal work for equal pay, "not only in the government sector, but also in the private contractors who deal with the government."

Pensions for homemakers will also be investigated, said McInnes.

Young people have also been short-changed by the Liberal government, he said.

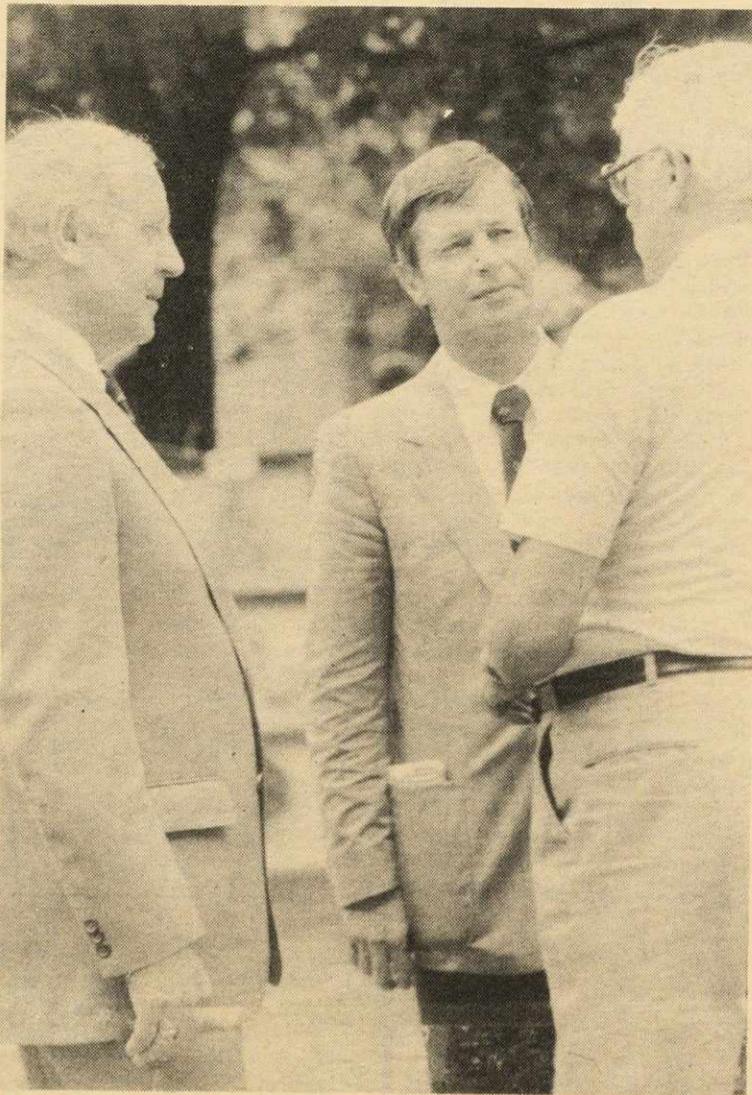
"You have 500,000 Canadian youth graduates with some vision and immediately they are dashed on the rocks. There's a stain on them that will take a long time before it's removed."

McInnes said he has talked to many parents who feel their children's mental health suffers when they can't find work. They complained their children "just hang around the docks," McInnes said.

"Special attention is warranted."

McInnes thinks the solution to these problems lies in "new money."

"We need to create a climate of confidence. We need new business investment. We need economic justice and economic equality for all Canadians."



Premier John Buchanan out campaigning with PC candidate Stewart McInnes. Photo: Peter Katsihtis, Dal Photo.

While he sees the need for such things as job programmes and day-care centres, he says nothing can be done "to get the snowball rolling until we initiate new economic activity."

McInnes has more complaints about the federal government's handling of two groups of Canadians: the prostitutes and the military.

A group of Halifax residents recently asked McInnes to walk with them along Hollis Street.

He was shocked by what he saw.

"I saw a lot of dialogue between girls and their customers. There's an incredible volume of traffic in that area, and noise going on until the early morning hours."

He said he'd heard reports of physical and verbal harrassment, and people had had their lawns used for illicit activities.

"I've talked to people who keep lodging houses and find it difficult to keep tenants ... people whose child-

ren or wives cannot go out in the evening after supertime."

McInnes says he's not trying to deal with the whole issue of prostitution, he just wants them out of the residential areas.

Although residents marching with placards have deterred some of the activity, McInnes says its not enough.

He suggested a House of Commons Committee should study "the social and economic implications" of prostitution.

In addition, the Nova Scotia government should seek a court injunction similar to one secured in British Columbia. The provincial government in B.C. recently brought down legislation to keep prostitutes out of a specific Vancouver residential area.

While Halifax residents may be upset about prostitution, McInnes thinks all Canadians are upset about the state of the armed forces.

"Our offshore conventional forces are not only inadequate, they hardly exist. The equipment is obsolete."

McInnes blames the federal government for allowing the situation to deteriorate.

The PC's want to rebuild the armed forces "solving some of the unemployment situation," for policing and peacekeeping purposes, McInnes said.

This would take "a massive amount of money," he admitted, but he didn't say where the money would come from.

The Tories have been embarrassed by former Finance Minister John Crosbie's inadvertent release that their election promises would cost Canadians \$20 billion.

Joan Sullivan is Atlantic Bureau Chief for Canadian University Press.

## Old clan makes way for new

In trying to put a new face on a party publicly perceived as having been too long in power, Prime Minister John Turner received a lot of help from the Trudeau clan.

Prominent Liberals who chose not to run for re-election include: Monique Begin, Pierre DeBane, Maurice Dupras, Denis Ethier, Marc Lalonde, Romeo Leblanc, Thomas Lefebvre, Allan MacEachen, Mark MacGuigan, Bryce Mackasey, Len Merchant, John Munro, Jean-Luc Pepin, Yvon Pinard, Pierre Trudeau, Charlie Turner and Eugene Whelen.

## Rhinos seek Newfoundland

The Rhinoceros Party of Canada announced a made-for-Newfoundland platform in July to seek out voters and candidates in Canada's eastern-most province.

The party's Newfoundland planks include: not building a causeway to the mainland, developing a new breed of mosquito that will hatch from its egg in winter and immediately freeze to death, and a 400 kilometre fishing limit which will be drawn off-shore in watercolour to make sure the fish will see it and stay within the Canadian boundary.

"Just because fish go in schools doesn't mean they're smart, so we'll draw the line right out there where they can see it," a spokesperson told the St. John's office of The Canadian Press.

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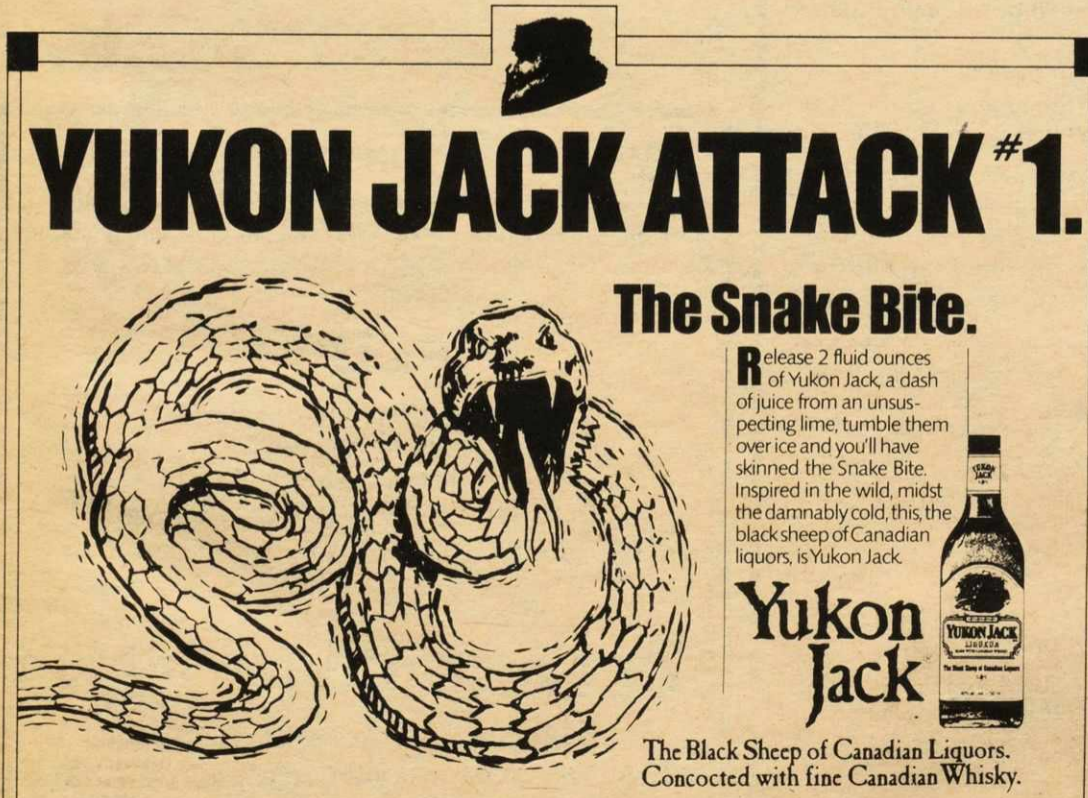
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