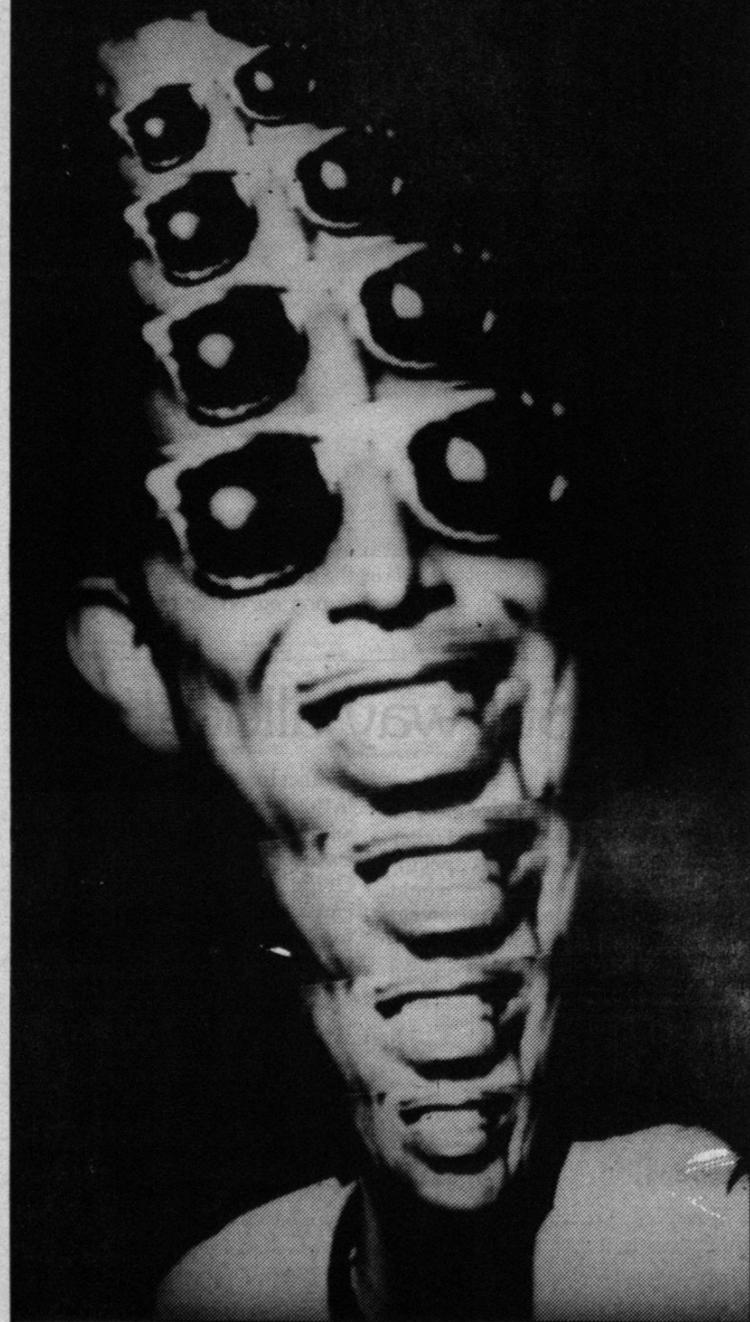


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The Strathcona stump, 1988—

Doug Main

Doug Main says he wants the West to get its fair share from Ottawa.

While the federal election is turning into a dogfight over free trade, the Reform Party candidate believes the real issue is balancing power between Eastern and Western Canada.

The top item on Main's parliamentary list would be senate reform. Main questions the motives of the Conservative government prompting the Meech Lake accord, saying the bill would slam the door shut on the chances for the West to gain "equal representation" in Ottawa.

"Alberta has historically put more money into the federal treasury than it gets back. It's time the West got its fair say in the government with an equal, elected senate."

"The Mulroney government has been promising senate reform for years, but have never delivered," said Main. "I don't think changing



Clive Oshty

the color of the upholstery of the chairs in the senate is reform."

The free trade agreement, according to Main, would also be a way of bridging the political and economic gully he says separates Eastern and Western Canada.

The Strathcona Reform Party leader said he supports "free trade that's honestly communicative. If you're a member of the Reform Party you want free, market driven situations. We are in favor of free trade that's free and fair east-west as well as north-south."

Main says he would promote

greater voter input on some of the 'moral' issues of the election, such as abortion, capital punishment and language rights. "I think we need a referendum to clearly define the position of the voters."

On issues concerning Canadian sovereignty, Main said he strongly supports Canadian involvement in NATO, adding that "we have a responsibility to uphold the agreement with our allies."

While the Reform Party is the new national party on the block, with only scattered representation in Canada, Main believes that Canadians will vote Reform because they are looking for a change.

Main says his high profile will give him the edge in the Strathcona election.

A broadcast journalist for ITV news, he has been a resident of Strathcona for 13 years.

Although he has held no previous political office, Main says his lack of political experience will be an advantage. "I'm not a professional politician — which I think is one reason why people will vote for me."

Una MacLean-Evans

A late comer to the Strathcona race, Una MacLean-Evans says her experience will give her the edge in the election.

With over 40 years working in and around politics, the Liberal candidate says she has "experience that none of the other candidates have."

MacLean-Evans' resume includes being president of the Liberal Party of Canada in Alberta, and alderman on Edmonton City Council for eight years.

"I think I have a record which is proven for doing things for Edmontonians and this constituency. If you have experience, that is going to be reflected in the National government."

Free trade would be a top priority for MacLean. Following the lead of Liberal party leader John Turner, MacLean-Evans

questions the motives behind the agreement and sees the deal as "unnecessary."

"Before we commit ourselves to the agreement, we have to look at some of the consequences," said MacLean, saying that government officials need to consider the deal from a broader perspective.

"My concern in this campaign is what free trade will do to

economic communities — specifically education."

Fallout from the deal would lead to a decline of education standards, said MacLean-Evans. "There is right now federal funding available for post-secondary education but it has been cut back pretty badly," she said, explaining that free trade would probably divert more money away from universities. "It will become a situation where people will ask not how good our education is, but how much does it cost."

Rather than insisting on open trade with the United States, the government should be encouraging better economic relations between Canada and other investors, said MacLean. "We should be educating ourselves in the economics and cultures of foreign countries."

Cutting back military spending would also be a priority for the Liberal candidate. While Mac-



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