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# The 2011 Ontario election: key riding profiles

## Key swing ridings in the Greater Toronto Area

# The Greater Toronto Area



This document provides details of what we believe will be some of the most fiercely contested seats in the GTA in October's provincial election. Information on the riding, the demographics of the electorate and the individual candidates running in each seat will provide you with greater insight to the election and those ridings which will prove decisive in determining which party will form the next government.

# Burlington

## Geography of the riding

This riding includes all of Burlington south of a line following Dundas Street to Guelph Line to Upper Middle Road to Walker Line to the QEW.

## Demographic profile:

- 2006 population: 118,310
- 2001-2006 population change: 0.8 per cent
- Visible minority: 7.6 per cent
- Median household income: \$69,096
- Rented: 25.4 per cent, versus owned: 74.6 per cent
- Average number of children at home per family: 1.0
- Unemployment rate: 4.9 per cent

Source: Statistics Canada 2006






Source: Elections Ontario

## The race

Burlington has elected PCs since the riding was first created in 1999. However, that could change in October. Popular incumbent Joyce Savoline is retiring and the Liberals need a swing of less than 4 per cent to take the riding. In what is sure to be a fiercely competitive election, what happens in Burlington will give a good indication of which way the province is going to vote.

2007 provincial election results		
Name	Party	Total votes cast (%)
Joyce Savoline	PC	21,517 <b>(41.3)</b>
Marianne Meed Ward	Liberal	19,693 <b>(37.8)</b>
Cory Judson	NDP	5,731 (11)
Tim Wilson	Green	4,750 (9.5)

<b>2011 candidates</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Party</b>		<b>Bio</b>
Jane McKenna	PC		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Touted as a community leader - has been involved with many projects for organizations including Rotary Central, the Carpenter Hospice and The Heart and Stroke Foundation.</li> <li>▪ Business owner - recently launched her own company, Rainmaker Consulting.</li> </ul>
Karmel Sakran	Liberal		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Founding member of the Carpenter Hospice and currently serves on the board of the Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital.</li> <li>▪ Chaired the Burlington United Way campaign for 2010-2011.</li> </ul>
Peggy Russell	NDP		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Former vice-chair and 10-year trustee with the Halton District School Board.</li> </ul>
Alex Brown	Green	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Computer Science undergraduate at Trent University.</li> </ul>

# Don Valley East

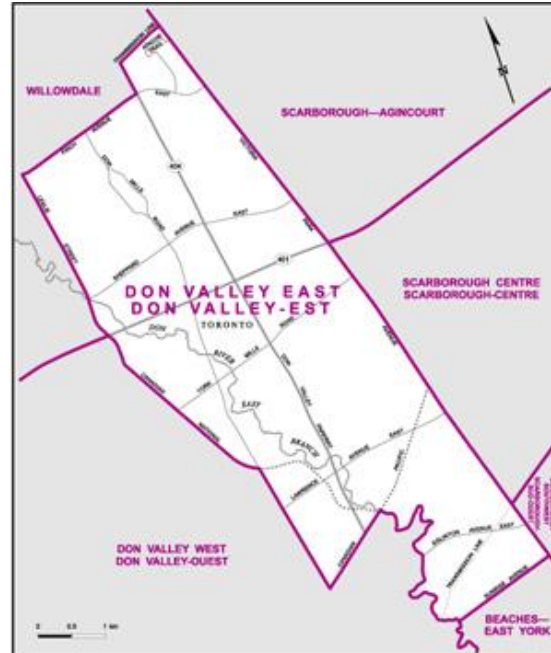
## Geography of the riding

Don Valley East covers the northeast section of the North York part of Toronto.

## Demographic profile:

- 2006 population: 109,640
- 2001-2006 population change: -1.4 per cent
- Visible minority: 56.5 per cent
- Median household income: \$53,358
- Rented: 52.5 per cent, versus owned: 47.5 per cent
- Average number of children at home per family: 1.1
- Unemployment rate: 8.8 per cent

*Statistics Canada 2006 Census*







*Source: Elections Ontario*

## The race

On paper, Don Valley East would be a seat you would expect the Liberals to hold in October's election; incumbent David Caplan held the seat with a landslide victory in 2007. However, the ever popular Caplan has announced he is not seeking re-election, and this is another former Liberal stronghold that returned a Conservative MP in May's federal election. Another GTA seat in which the outcome will indicate which party will form the next provincial government.

2007 provincial election result		
Name	Party	Total votes cast (%)
David Caplan	Liberal	19,602 (55.6)
Angela Kennedy	PC	8,821 (25)
Mary Trapani Hynes	NDP	3,757 (10.6)
Trifon Haitas	Green	2,300 (6.5)

2011 election candidates			
Name	Party		Bio
Michael Coteau	Liberal		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ School Board Trustee representing Don Valley East since 2003.</li> <li>▪ Former assistant to the Minister of Industry, on initiatives such as Connecting Canadians and Computers for Schools.</li> <li>▪ Worked as an ESL teacher for two years and as a curriculum writer then went on to join one of the largest United Way Funded agencies, in Scarborough.</li> <li>▪ Current chair of the TDSB's Programs and School Services Committee and Student Nutrition Advisory Committee.</li> </ul>
Michael Lende	PC		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Background – businessman. Former SME owner and in 2006 became the first Regional VP of Zipcar Toronto.</li> <li>▪ Community leader – former nominee for the top 40 under 40, has a great deal of community experience as the President of the York Mills Hockey Club and the Head Coach of the Don Mills Flyers AAA Rep Hockey team.</li> </ul>
Dr. Bob Hilliard	NDP		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A paediatrician, university professor and Sunday school teacher.</li> <li>▪ Former President of the Canadian Paediatric Society.</li> </ul>
Aren Bedrosyan	Green		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Student reading for a degree in Psychology at York University.</li> </ul>

# Eglinton-Lawrence

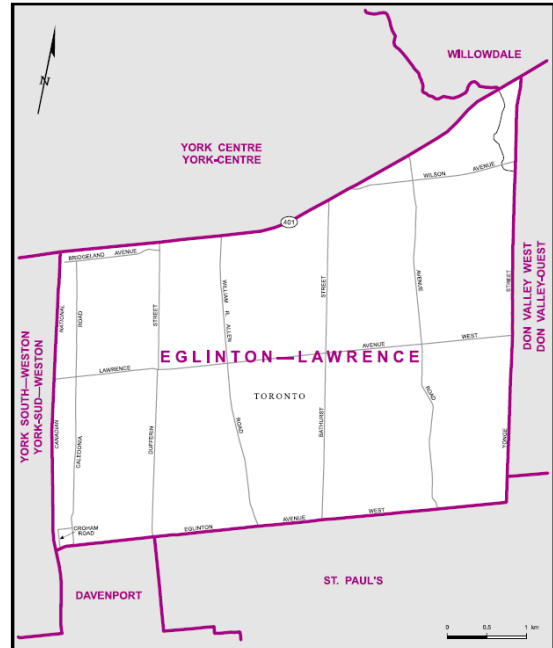
## Geography of the riding

Northwest Toronto riding that stretches from Yonge Street in the east to Caledonia in the west and from Highway 401 in the north to Eglinton Avenue in the south.

## Demographic profile:

- 2006 population: 110,066
- 2001-2006 population change: 3.0 per cent
- Visible minority: 24.5 per cent
- Median household income: \$60,962
- Rented: 45.4 per cent, versus owned: 54.6 per cent
- Average number of children at home per family: 1.3
- Unemployment rate: 5.6 per cent

Source: Statistics Canada 2006 Census







Source: Elections Ontario

## The race

Veteran Liberal MPP Mike Colle has represented the area since 1995. However, in 2007 the PC candidate whittled Colle's lead down to just 5.5 per cent. Combine this with the fact that the seat returned a Conservative MP in May's federal election after being represented by a Liberal since 1979 and that the PCs are fielding Rocco Rossi, a former Liberal and a candidate in the 2010 Toronto Mayoral election and it is easy to see why this riding is one to watch in the coming months.

## 2007 provincial election results

Name of candidate	Party	Number of votes cast (% of total votes cast)
Mike Colle (incumbent)	Liberal	17,402 (43.2)
Bernie Tanz	PC	15,257 (37.9)
Karin Wiens	NDP	4,039 (10)
Andrew James	Green	2,871 (7.1)

2011 election candidates			
Name	Party		Bio
Mike Colle (incumbent)	Liberal		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ First elected 1995.</li> <li>▪ Former Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Finance.</li> <li>▪ Former critic for transportation, consumer and business services, municipal affairs and for the Greater Toronto Area.</li> <li>▪ Current Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Children and Youth Services.</li> </ul>
Rocco Rossi	PC		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Former National Director of the Liberal Party of Canada.</li> <li>▪ Candidate in 2010 Toronto mayoral election.</li> <li>▪ Former President of MGI Software.</li> <li>▪ Extensive community involvement with organizations such as United Way and the New Haven Home for Autistic Children.</li> <li>▪ Former CEO of the Heart and Stroke Foundation. In this role oversaw a strategy that raised over a half-billion dollars for vital heart and stroke research.</li> </ul>
Gerti Dervishi	NDP		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Senior Project Manager at the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care.</li> <li>▪ MBA from Ryerson University.</li> </ul>
Josh Rachlis	Green		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Former TV host/producer.</li> <li>▪ Talk radio host on Toronto's Newstalk 1010 CFRB, has appeared on CBC Radio shows GO and Definitely Not The Opera, and his weekly movie reviews on CINA 1650 AM.</li> </ul>

# Halton

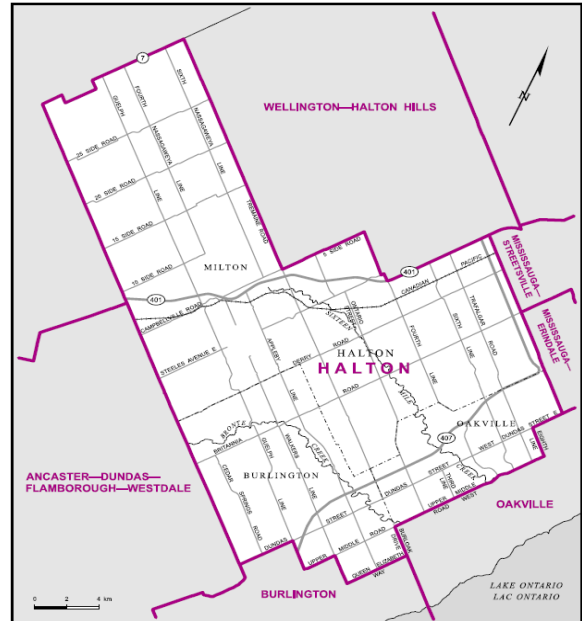
## Geography of the riding

This riding lies approximately 50km west of downtown Toronto and consists of the Town of Milton, a northwestern part of the Town of Oakville and a northern part of the City of Burlington.

## Demographic profile

- 2006 population: 151,943
- 2001-2006 population change: 51.9 per cent
- Visible minority: 19 per cent
- Median household income: \$93,064
- Rented: 8 per cent, versus owned: 91.9 per cent
- Average number of children at home per family: 1.3
- Unemployment rate: 4.4 per cent

Source: Statistics Canada 2006 Census







Source: Elections Ontario

## The race

Incumbent PC Ted Chudleigh was first elected in 1999, winning an impressive two thirds of total votes cast. In the two elections since 1999 that margin of victory has diminished significantly: Chudleigh won by less than eight per cent in 2003, whilst less than 1,000 votes separated him from Liberal candidate Gary Zemplak in 2007. With the Liberals needing only a 1.6 per cent swing to take this seat in October’s provincial election, and having recruited a high profile candidate in Indira Naidoo-Harris, this looks set to be a battleground riding in October’s election.

## 2007 provincial election result

Name of candidate	Party	Number of votes cast (% of total votes cast)
Ted Chudleigh (incumbent)	PC	23,391 (42.6)
Gary Zemplak	Liberal	22,497 (41.5)
Andrew Chlobowski	Green	4,375 (7.9)
Pat Heroux	NDP	4,159 (7.6)

2011 candidates			
Name	Party		Bio
Ted Chudleigh (incumbent)	PC		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Elected in 1999.</li> <li>▪ Has held key government and opposition roles related to auto insurance, preserving the Great Lakes Coastline and the Niagara Escarpment and was Chair of the Ontario government Finance Committee.</li> <li>▪ Was a member of the task force investigation of gasoline pricing and sat on the task force investigation of Ontario's water resources.</li> </ul>
Indira Naidoo-Harris	Liberal		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Former broadcast journalist (at CBC, CTV, TVO, OMNI, NBC, and PBS).</li> <li>▪ Volunteers with local, national, and international causes like World Vision, the Red Cross, and the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund of Canada.</li> </ul>
TBC	Green		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Formerly employed as an Ontario Disability Support Program Caseworker and H&amp;R Block.</li> </ul>
Nik Spohr	NDP		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Holds degrees from the University of Guelph (BA Political Science), Queen's University (MA Political Studies), and is currently pursuing a Master's in Environmental Studies at York.</li> <li>▪ For the past five years Spohr has been employed with Gordon Food Service in Milton as he completes his education.</li> </ul>

# Oak Ridges-Markham

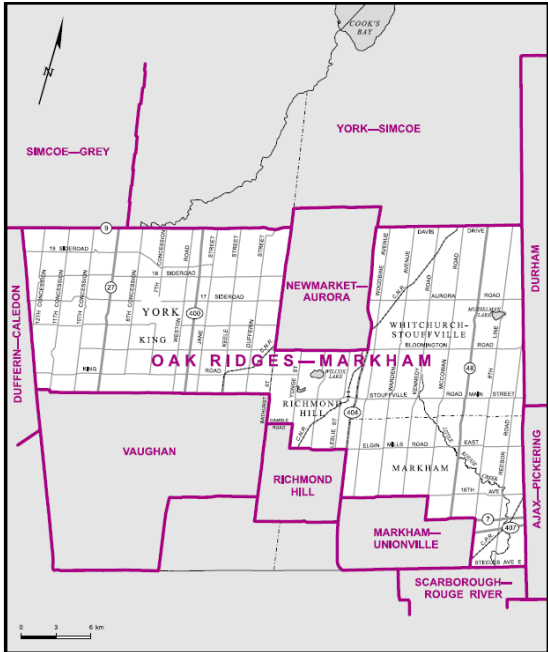
### Geography of the riding

This riding includes a number of suburbs north of Toronto. It includes the town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, most of the township of King (excepting extreme northeast) the northern portions of the town of Richmond Hill (including all of Oak Ridges), and the northern and eastern portions of the town of Markham.

### Demographic profile:

- 2006 population: 169,642
- 2001-2006 population change: 52.5 per cent
- Visible minority: 41.3 per cent
- Median household income: \$88,270
- Rented: 9.5 per cent, versus owned: 90.5 per cent
- Average number of children at home per family: 1.3
- Unemployment rate: 5.0 per cent

Source: Statistics Canada 2006 Census







Source: Elections Ontario

### The race

This seat was created ahead of the 2007 election from four other ridings. Liberal incumbent Helena Jaczek scored an impressive victory in the previous election, defeating the Progressive Conservative candidate by more than 12 per cent. However, the Tories are very strong in this region of Ontario and will be hopeful that in the next few months they can do enough to add this seat to their post October 6<sup>th</sup> tally.

2007 provincial election result		
Name of candidate	Party	Number of votes cast (%)
Helena Jaczek (incumbent)	Liberal	28,564 (48.2)
Phil Bannon	PC	21,367 (36)
Janice Hagan	NDP	4,698 (7.9)
Attila Nagy	Green	3,815 (6.4)

2011 election candidates			
Name	Party		Bio
Dr. Helena Jaczek (incumbent)	Liberal		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First elected 2007.</li> <li>Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of the Environment.</li> <li>Former Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health Promotion.</li> <li>Received medical degree and MSC from the University of Toronto and later went on to pursue a Masters of Business Administration from York University.</li> <li>Practiced medicine for 11 years at the Etobicoke Medical Centre and Women's College Hospital in Toronto.</li> </ul>
Farid Wassaf	PC		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obtained Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy in 1989 and went on to run his family's business.</li> <li>Recognized for his commitment to patient care and public healthcare. He has been awarded the Canadian Pharmacist of the Year award, the Mortar Pestle Award of Merit, the Commitment to Care Award in Patient Care.</li> </ul>
Joe Whitfield	NDP		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local teacher, nominated as Ontario's Best New Teacher of the year in 2010-11.</li> </ul>
Trifon Haitas	Green		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 2007, Haitas was granted the NEPMCC medal for distinguished services provided to arts, to letters, to science, to industry, to public service and to media.</li> </ul>

# Oakville

## Geography of the riding

Consists of the following areas of Oakville: Lakeshore Woods, Bronte, Hopedale, Coronation Park, Kerr Village, Old Oakville, Eastlake, Glen Abbey, College Park, Iroquois Ridge, Clearview, and Joshua Creek.

## Demographic profile:

- 2006 population: 113,711
- 2001-2006 population change: 3.7 per cent
- Visible minority: 15 per cent
- Median household income: \$87,249
- Rented: 19.7 per cent, versus owned: 80.3 per cent
- Average number of children at home per family: 1.2
- Unemployment rate: 5.3 per cent







## The race

Kevin Flynn is another popular incumbent facing the political fight of his life to retain the seat he first took in the 2003 provincial election. Flynn will use his track record as a community champion to make the case that he is the best representative for Oakville at Queen's Park: his opposition to his own Liberal government's plan to build a gas plant in the riding, which was subsequently cancelled, raised his profile and support in the riding. Flynn is up against high profile PC candidate Larry Scott. This is another riding which could go either way in October.

## 2007 provincial election result

Name	Party	Number of votes cast (%)
Kevin Flynn	Liberal	23,757 <b>(49.7)</b>
Rick Byers	PC	16,666 <b>(34.9)</b>
Marion Schaffer	Green	3,912 (8.2)
Tony Crawford	NDP	3,178 (6.7)

2011 election candidates			
Name	Party		Bio
Kevin Flynn (incumbent)	Liberal		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ First elected 2003.</li> <li>▪ Current Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Education and former Parliamentary Assistant to the Ministers of Labour, Energy, Environment and Training, Colleges and Universities.</li> <li>▪ Previously served in the role of Oakville Town and Regional Councillor for over 18 years.</li> <li>▪ Former chair of the Select Committee on Mental Health and Addictions.</li> </ul>
Larry Scott	PC		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Business background – former Head of Scotia Capital Markets Europe and Global Head of Scotiabank’s precious metals business and director of the London Clearing House and the London Metals Exchange.</li> <li>▪ Federal campaign manager for Conservative MP Terence Young’s two successful election campaigns (2008 and 2011) and served as his Chief of Staff.</li> </ul>
Lesley Sprague	NDP		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Has worked for various government agencies such as Elections Canada, Canada Revenue Agency and the Ministry of Health in British Columbia.</li> <li>▪ Member of the Halton Healthcare Mental Health Consumer and Advocacy Committee and served as a Hospital Accreditation Team Member at the Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital.</li> </ul>
Andrew Chlobowski	Green		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Former CEO of GPC Oakville Riding Association and candidate in Halton in 2007 provincial election.</li> <li>▪ MA degrees in physics, computer science and environmental science.</li> </ul>

# Oshawa

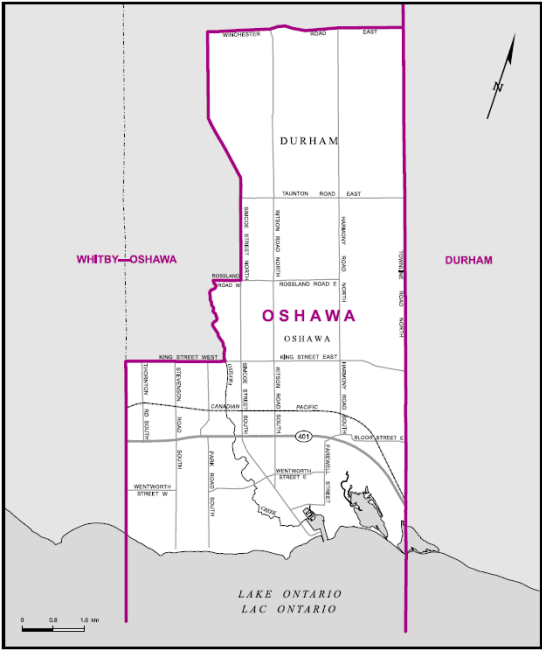
### Geography of the riding

This riding consists of the southern and eastern parts of the City of Oshawa south and east of a line drawn from west to east along King Street West, north along Oshawa Creek, east along Rossland Road West, north along Simcoe Street North and east along Winchester Road East.

### Demographic profile:

- 2006 population: 116,881
- 2001-2006 population change: 2.8 per cent
- Visible minority: 8.4 per cent
- Median household income: \$59,384
- Rented: 32.2 per cent, versus owned: 67.7 per cent
- Average number of children at home per family: 1.1
- Unemployment rate: 7.8 per cent

Source: Statistics Canada 2006 Census







Source: Elections Ontario

### The race

Incumbent Jerry Ouellette has held this seat for the Progressive Conservatives since 1995. The past two elections have seen narrow victories for the Tories, as the NDP closed the gap to 3 per cent in 2003 and 6 per cent in 2007.

2007 provincial election result		
Name of candidate	Party	Number of votes cast (%)
Jerry Ouellette (Incumbent)	PC	15,977 (39)
Sid Ryan	NDP	13,482 (32.9)
Faelyne Templer	Liberal	8,764 (21.4)
Alexander Kemp	Green	2,474 (6)

2011 candidates			
Name	Party		Bio
Jerry Ouellette (incumbent)	PC		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ First elected in 1995.</li> <li>▪ Current critic for Natural Resources file.</li> <li>▪ Former Minister of Natural Resources and critic for Northern Development and Mines.</li> <li>▪ Prior to entering politics managed a lumber operation and a national consulting firm.</li> </ul>
Sid Ryan	NDP		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ National representative for the Canadian Auto Workers union and is a former president of CAW Local 222.</li> </ul>
Jacque Menezes	Liberal		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Has a B.Sc. in Agricultural Marketing, Economics and Bioscience from the University of Guelph.</li> <li>▪ Helped to create 'The Big Move' transportation initiative for the Province of Ontario.</li> </ul>
Stacey Leadbetter	Green		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A litigation law clerk and has over 25 years' experience in the legal field.</li> <li>▪ Currently works for one of the largest national law firms in Canada, where she is a senior litigation law clerk dealing with large commercial actions.</li> </ul>

# Pickering-Scarborough East

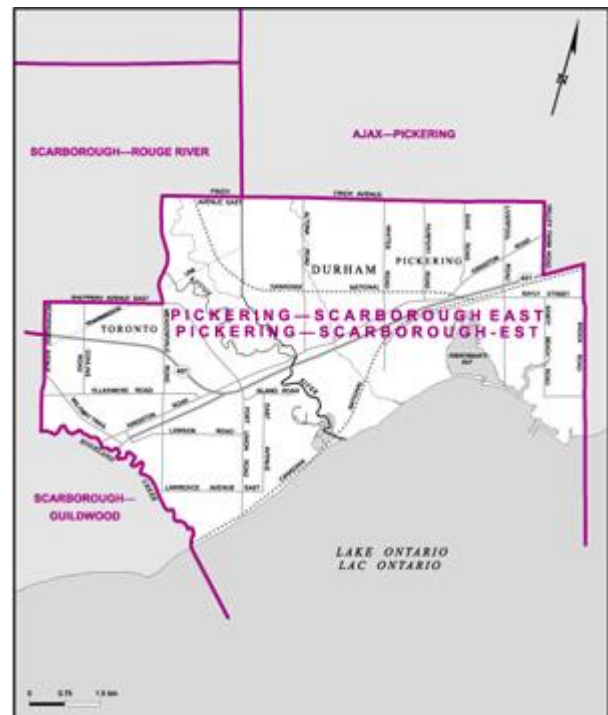
## Geography of the riding

Pickering-Scarborough East (PSE) is a relatively new riding, created in 2003 from 44 per cent of Pickering-Ajax-Uxbridge, 40 per cent of Scarborough East and a small part of Scarborough-Rouge River.

## Demographic profile:

- 2006 population: 106,602
- 2001-2006 population change: -0.1 per cent
- Visible minority: 37.7 per cent
- Median household income: \$85,019
- Rented: 10.2 per cent, versus owned: 89.7 per cent
- Average number of children at home per family: 1.3
- Unemployment rate: 6.7 per cent

Source: Statistics Canada 2006 Census







Source: Elections Ontario

## The race

Like Don Valley East, on paper one would expect this riding to return a Liberal MPP to Queen's Park in October. However, popular incumbent Wayne Arthurs is retiring, and PSE is another riding that returned a Conservative MP to Ottawa in May. Add into the mix that the PCs are running a high profile candidate in Kevin Gaudet, a former Federal and Ontario Director for the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, who is said to be likely to feature in a PC cabinet, and you can see why we feel this riding *may* change hands in October.

## 2007 provincial election results

Name of candidate	Party	Number of votes cast (%)
Wayne Arthurs	Liberal	19,762 (48.3)
Diana Hall	PC	12,884 (31.5)
Andrea Moffat	NDP	4,563 (11.1)
Anita Lachlan	Green	2,572 (6.3)

2011 election candidates			
Name	Party		Bio
Tracy MacCharles	Liberal		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over 20 years experience in human resources management working in the private, public and not for profit sectors including serving as Vice President of Human Resources, Manulife Financial for the Corporate and Information Technology Divisions.</li> <li>In 2004, she established her own Human Resources practice.</li> <li>Active community volunteer in her for numerous local charities.</li> </ul>
Kevin Gaudet	PC		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spent the last four years as the Federal and Ontario Director for the Canadian Taxpayers Federation where he proposed constructive solutions to make governments across Canada work better and life easier for Ontarians.</li> <li>He was the Director of Opposition Research for Preston Manning, Leader of the Reform Party of Canada.</li> </ul>
Nerissa Carino	NDP		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Business owner.</li> <li>Has been recognized by the Pickering Soccer Club for her dedication to working with youth.</li> </ul>
Kevin Smith	Green		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technology marketing specialist.</li> </ul>

# Scarborough-Guildwood

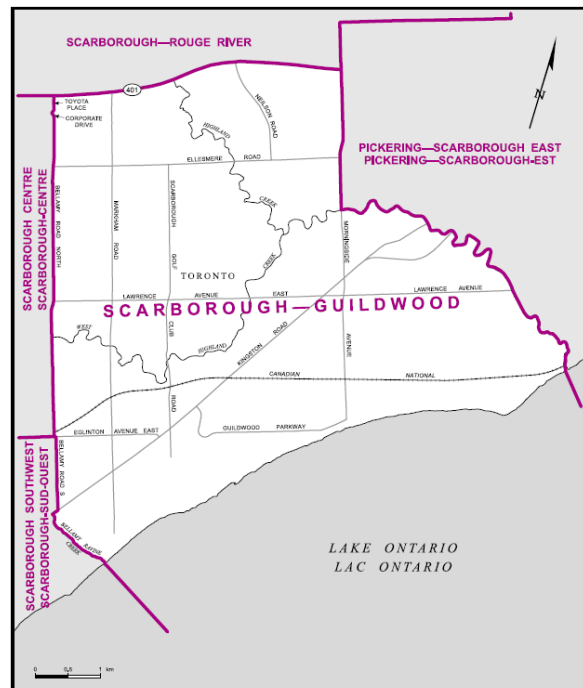
## Geography of the riding

This Toronto riding contains part of the former city of Scarborough extending north from Lake Ontario. The riding falls extends from the lake to Highway 401 and between Morningside Avenue and Highland Creek in the east and Toyota Place, Bellamy Road and Bellamy Ravine Creek in the west.

## Demographic profile:

- 2006 population: 108,813
- 2001-2006 population change: -3.4 per cent
- Visible minority: 60.4 per cent
- Median household income: \$47,963
- Rented: 44.4 per cent, versus owned: 55.6 per cent
- Average number of children at home per family: 1.4
- Unemployment rate: 9.6 per cent

Source: Statistics Canada 2006 Census







Source: Elections Ontario

## Recent electoral history

Incumbent MPP and current Minister of Health Promotion and Sport Margaret Best was easily elected to the newly created riding of Scarborough Guildwood in 2007. The fact that federal seatmate John McKay was one of the only Liberals to survive the party's capitulation in May will give the provincial Liberals some piece of mind. Nevertheless, there is a feeling in the riding that Best has failed to live up to expectations since being elected. This and the fact that the the Tories need only a 14.5 per cent swing to return a PC MPP in October.

2007 provincial election results		
Name of candidate	Party	Number of votes cast (%)
Margaret Best (incumbent)	Liberal	14,430 (42.5)
Gary Grant	PC	9,502 (28)
Neethan Shan	NDP	7,441 (21.9)
Glenn Kitchen	Green	1,811 (5.3)

2011 election candidates			
Name	Party		Bio
Margarett Best (incumbent)	Liberal		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ First elected 2007.</li> <li>▪ Minister of Health Promotion and Sport.</li> <li>▪ Minister Best received the BBPA Women of Distinction Award and in October 2009, was bestowed a 2009 National Ethnic Press and Media Council of Canada Award in the Distinguished Services category of Equality/Social Justice.</li> </ul>
Dr. Gary Ellis	PC		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Served 30 years in senior levels of law enforcement prior to seeking PC candidacy.</li> <li>▪ Served as the operational commander of the RCMP Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit focused on organized crime and counter-terrorism and spent a year working with the FBI as part of their Leadership Development Program.</li> <li>▪ Holds a PhD in Educational Leadership from the University of Toronto and currently serves as the Program Head of Justice Studies at the University of Guelph-Humber.</li> <li>▪ Owns his own consulting business.</li> </ul>
Lorri Urban	NDP		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Constituent Assistant to MPP Michael Prue.</li> <li>▪ An instructor in Business Communication and a building inspector.</li> </ul>
Naoshad Pochkhanawala	Green		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Partner in Robert M. Livie Insurance Agencies Inc.</li> </ul>

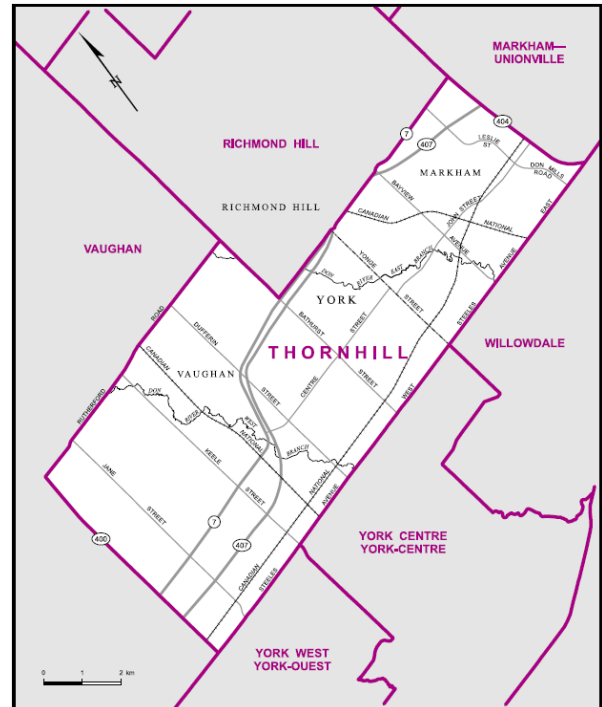
# Thornhill

## Geography of the riding

This riding is situated north of Toronto and consists of parts of Vaughan and Markham.

## Demographic profile:

- 2006 population: 131,978
- 2001-2006 population change: 13.0 per cent
- Visible minority: 33.2 per cent
- Median household income: 80,876
- Rented: 13.6 per cent, versus owned: 86.4 per cent
- Average number of children at home per family: 1.4
- Unemployment rate: 6.0 per cent






Source: Elections Ontario

## The race

In 1999, PC candidate Tina Molinari defeated the Liberal candidate by just 250 votes. In 2003, as the red Liberal tide engulfed the province, Thornhill elected a Liberal candidate with a plurality of less than 1,000 votes. At the most recent election, PC candidate Peter Shurman defeated the Liberal candidate by around 2,000 votes. With the Liberals needing just a 3.6 per cent swing to retake Thornhill, and having recruited former CEO of the Canadian Jewish Congress, Bernie Farber, to run for the party in the riding with the largest Jewish population in Canada, the Liberals will fancy their chances in October. One to watch.

2007 Provincial Election Result		
Name of candidate	Party	Number of votes cast (%)
Peter Shurman (Incumbent)	PC	22,153 (45.9)
Mario G. Racco	Liberal	20,420 (42.3)
Sandra Parrott	NDP	2,656 (5.5)
Lloyd Helferty	Green	2,520 (5.2)

2011 candidates			
Name	Party		Bio
Peter Shurman (incumbent)	PC		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ First elected in 2007.</li> <li>▪ Former NewsTalk 1010 CFRB radio host.</li> <li>▪ Current critic for Economic Development and Trade.</li> <li>▪ Community involvement: Radiothon for Sick Kids Foundation, helping to raise millions of dollars each year for the Hospital for Sick Children; signature voice for VoicePrint - a charity, which reads the news and other printed materials for over four million vision-impaired Canadians.</li> </ul>
Bernie Farber	Liberal		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Previously worked for Youth Services Bureau and the Children's Aid Society in Ottawa.</li> <li>▪ Former CEO of the Canadian Jewish Congress.</li> <li>▪ Serves on several local boards including the North York Committee for Community Race and Ethnic Relations, the York Region Community Safety Committee and the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police.</li> </ul>
Cindy Hackelberg	NDP		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Previous experience as a management consultant and has volunteered with various local media and arts organizations in York Region.</li> </ul>
Steff Duncan	Green	N/A	N/A

# Willowdale

## Geography of the riding

This is another riding situated north of the City of Toronto.

## Demographic profile:

- 2006 population: 129,356
- 2001-2006 population change: 19.3 per cent
- Visible minority: 59.4 per cent  
Median household income: \$58,737
- Rented: 32.9 per cent, versus owned: 67 per cent
- Unemployment rate: 7.5 per cent
- Average number of children at home per family: 1.0

Source: Statistics Canada 2006 Census







Source: Elections Ontario

## The race

Incumbent MPP David Zimmer was elected to represent Willowdale in 2003, on the political wave that brought the current Liberal government to power. Zimmer significantly increased the margin of victory in 2007, as he finished over 13 per cent ahead of his PC rival. This seat has returned Progressive Conservatives in the past: between 1990 and 2003 Tories represented Willowdale. Federally, Willowdale was another GTA seat that elected a Conservative MP in May. The Progressive Conservatives will be confident they can repeat this provincially in October.

2007 Provincial Election Result		
Name of candidate	Party	Number of votes cast (%)
David Zimmer (Incumbent)	Liberal	21,066 (47.7)
David Shiner	PC	15,588 (35)
Rini Ghosh	NDP	3,699 (8.3)
Torbjorn Zetterlund	Green	2,960 (6.7)

2011 election candidates			
Name	Party		Bio
David Zimmer (incumbent)	Liberal		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Elected in 2003.</li> <li>▪ Current Parliamentary Assistant to the Attorney General.</li> <li>▪ Former Chair of the Toronto Community Housing Corporation.</li> <li>▪ Former part-time Crown Attorney.</li> <li>▪ Served as assistant deputy chairperson at the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada.</li> </ul>
Vince Agovino	PC		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Currently serves as the head of fundraising for the John Paul the Great Family Centre and a member of The Ideal Advisory Board.</li> </ul>
Alexander Brown	NDP		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ESL teacher, career counsellor and dedicated civic leader.</li> </ul>
Michael Vetesse	Green		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Final year undergraduate student at University of Toronto.</li> <li>▪ Has worked at an actuarial firm, where he analyzed pension plan data.</li> </ul>

# York South –Weston

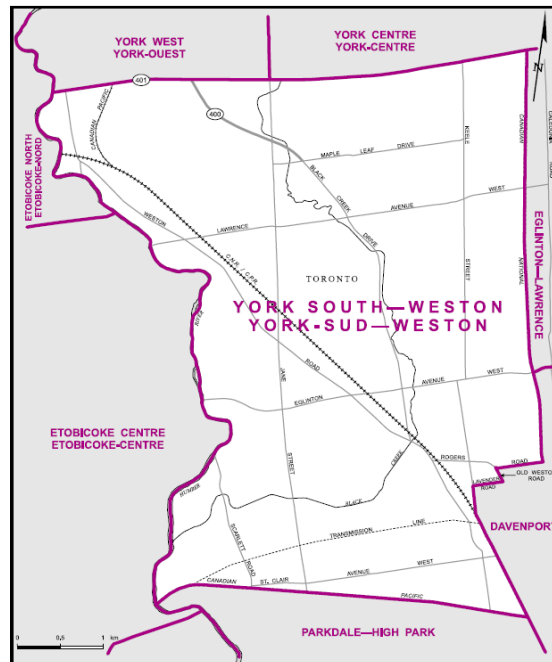
## Geography of the riding

This riding is in the west-end of Toronto. The riding has a largely working class and immigrant population. The riding is made up largely of the old City of York, a southwestern portion of the old city of North York, and parts of the old city of Toronto north of High Park.

## Demographic profile:

- 2006 population: 114,458
- 2001-2006 population change: -0.1 per cent
- Visible minority: 50.4 per cent
- Median household income: \$42,913
- Rented: 49 per cent, versus owned: 51 per cent
- Average number of children at home per family: 1.3
- Unemployment rate: 8.6 per cent

Source: Statistics Canada 2006 Census







Source: Elections Ontario

## The race

This riding elected a Liberal in 1999 and 2003. Cordiano's resignation from political life sparked a hotly contested by-election in February 2007 in which NDP candidate Paul Ferreira emerged victorious. Laura Albanese took the seat back for the Liberals in the provincial election 9 months later, but only by a margin of 1.5 per cent. Ferreira and Albanese will go head to head for the third time in October in what is a top NDP target seat.

## 2007 Provincial Election Results

Name of candidate	Party	Number of votes cast (%)
Laura Albanese (Incumbent)	Liberal	13,812 (42.9)
Paul Ferreira	NDP	13,343 (41.4)
Karen McMillan-Aver	PC	3,249 (10.1)
Anthony Gratl	Green	1,225 (3.8)

2011 candidates			
Name	Party		Bio
Laura Albanese	Liberal		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Tourism and Culture (Culture).</li> <li>Currently the elected Chair of the Toronto Caucus, the Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs and sits as a member of the Standing Committee on Government Agencies and the Cabinet Committee on Emergency Management.</li> <li>Before running for Parliament, Albanese was an anchor and producer of Italian language news programming on OMNI Television.</li> </ul>
Paul Ferreira	NDP		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Former Vice President of Outreach for the New Democratic Youth of Canada from 1997 to 1999, served on the Ontario NDP's executive from 2002 to 2004 and he was co-chair of the party's LGBT Committee for a number of years.</li> <li>Former chief of staff to Howard Hampton and then worked as a special advisor to current party leader Andrea Horwath.</li> </ul>
Lan Daniel	PC		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Married to federal Conservative MP Joe Daniel.</li> <li>Has worked as an electronic technician, a manufacturing technologist and owns her own small business, a printing company.</li> </ul>
TBC	Green		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Political Science undergraduate at York University.</li> </ul>

There are a number of other ridings that we have not yet prepared detailed backgrounds on that we would expect to be characterised by close electoral battles in the coming weeks. Some other ridings to watch, and brief details of the parties between whom competition is likely to be most intense, are listed below:

- **Brampton West:** another GTA seat that the federal Conservatives took from the Liberals at May's election. Impressive PC candidate Ben Shenouda requires only a 12 per cent swing to take this riding from Liberal incumbent Vic Dhillon.
- **Davenport:** with the retirement of long serving Liberal incumbent Tony Ruprecht, NDP candidate Jonah Schein stands a good chance of taking the seat his party has been close to taking a number of times. Interestingly, the NDP took this seat from the Liberals in May's federal election.
- **Etobicoke Lakeshore:** Liberal cabinet minister Laurel Broten is in for the political fight of her life against entrepreneur Simon Nylassy, who is running for the PCs, and given his strong commercial credentials, tipped as a future PC cabinet minister. This is yet another riding that went from Liberal red to Tory blue in May's federal election (this was former Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff's seat). Thought to be one of the Toronto seats in which the Tories have a real chance of taking from the Liberals.
- **Mississauga East-Cooksville:** former MPP Peter Fonseca stepped down in Spring 2011 to seek the Liberal Party nomination in the same seat for the federal election. Fonseca was successfully nominated for the Liberals but lost at the hands of Conservative candidate Wladyslaw Lizon in May. Liberal candidate, Dipika Damerla, former Senior Policy Advisor to the Minister of Economic Development and Trade, will hope to avoid a similar fate when up against PC candidate Zoran Churchin in October.
- **Mississauga South:** Minister of Labour Charles Sousa faces PC candidate Geoff Janoscik in what is likely to be another Mississauga seat characterised by a tight and hard fought election. Sousa's promotion to Cabinet last winter may make him harder to defeat, but the PCs will fancy their chances of taking this seat, especially given the margin by which the federal Conservatives took this seat from the Liberals in May.

We look forward to offering more of our thoughts on the provincial election campaign over the next few weeks. Please check [www.counselpa.com/whatsnew](http://www.counselpa.com/whatsnew) for our insights into what is likely to be the closest Ontario election in decades.