



Gary McHale

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« Generation Zet! Radio: 'This Election - Dare to Believe' »

Gary captures 10% of H-N votes

UPDATED 1052 EST Oct 27/08

Here are the preliminary results of the election as reported by [Elections Canada](#):

40th General Election			
Next refresh in 47 seconds or refresh now		October 15, 2008	
Preliminary Results			
Haldimand-Norfolk Download Close			
Party	Candidate	Votes	% Votes
Christian Heritage Party	Steven Elgersma	501	1.0
Conservative	Diane Finley	19,657	40.8
Liberal	Eric Hoskins	15,577	32.4
Green Party	Stephana Johnston	2,041	4.2
Independent	Gary McHale	4,821	10.0
NDP-New Democratic Party	Ian Nichols	5,549	11.5
Total number of valid votes:		48,146	
Polls reporting: 238/238		Voter turnout: 48,146 of 78,784 registered electors (61.1%)	
The number of registered electors shown in this table does not include electors who registered on election day.			

Gary captured 10% of the popular vote with nearly 5,000 votes! He also scored 1st or 2nd in every Caledonia poll. Just as interesting, 62% of Gary's votes came from outside Caledonia, signifying that there is a broad base of support both in and outside Caledonia for his/our efforts to fight race-based policing. Caledonia's victims should be pleased to know that some of their neighbours really do care about their plight.

Town	Gary	Con	Lib	NDP
Hagersville				
610	73	165	128	48
130	41	52	73	16
131	61	121	111	54
132	41	51	53	37
133	35	63	69	25
134	17	38	34	24
135	49	39	41	11
Hagersville	317	529	509	215
Caledonia				
611	113	76	133	31
612	77	63	87	19
137	83	65	60	17
138	106	50	60	19
139	89	71	91	23
140	103	50	85	21
141	59	28	59	19
142	83	65	64	25
143	56	48	67	19
144A	74	35	42	22
144B	69	32	43	18
145	87	32	50	21
146	66	53	58	26
147	77	59	77	34
148	53	27	43	29
149	74	62	103	19
150	104	37	83	18
151	71	57	87	31
152	28	18	40	23
153	47	36	67	26
154	77	46	73	37
155	103	43	65	20
156	57	78	55	29
157	66	58	76	21
Caledonia	1822	1189	1668	567
Cayuga				
613	72	205	165	47
164	37	52	56	37
165	51	98	76	45
166	27	75	75	19
Cayuga	187	430	372	148

Other Notable Numbers

Dunnville: Gary -575 votes

Gary was 2nd place in: Cheapside, Selkirk Kohler, Fisherville

In Caledonia Gary came in 1st place overall. He was in 1st or 2nd place in every poll in Caledonia.

62% of Gary's votes came from outside of Caledonia

Votes by Towns:

29% Kohler
25% Cheqpside, Cranston, Willow Grove, Fisherville
22% Selkirk, York
20% Springville, Canfield
15% Hartford, Lambs Corners
13% Javis

Here's how the Simcoe Reformer wrote the story:

Hoskins was clearly hurt by the presence of McHale, whose reach went beyond Caledonia. He actually won a poll in Hagersville while finishing second ahead of Hoskins in other Haldimand communities such as Kohler and Fisherville. In Caledonia, McHale took roughly half the 20 polls and tied two with Hoskins. Wherever Hoskins went in Haldimand, McHale seemed sure to follow, sucking votes away.

But it is also telling that Finley endured in Caledonia, winning three polls there and finishing a respectable third in many others. This was supposed to be her undoing and it wasn't. The Liberals failed to gain traction there, right in the heart of a nasty political crisis, or in any other part of the riding for that matter.

Simcoe Reformer, Oct 16/08: *Conservatives hang on, even in the face of crisis*

Karen Best of the Dunnville Chronicle offered these observations on Gary's strength:

Both [PC Finley and Liberal Hoskins] were out distanced by independent candidate Gary McHale in almost every poll in Caledonia.

Compared to Norfolk County statistics, the tide turned in polls located in Haldimand County. In Jarvis, Selkirk, and Hagersville polls, McHale was getting about 40 votes in each. In one Hagersville poll, he pulled ahead of the top contenders with a 49-vote count.

In Caledonia, preliminary results showed McHale's popularity. Finley won just two polls and Hoskins won three polls along with tying McHale at two others. The rest of the town was McHale's. In one poll, he eclipsed the front runners with 106 votes compared to their 50 and 60 scores. In some polls, he was 20 to 30 votes ahead.

In Cayuga, Finley won the three polls, one with double the votes for Hoskins. The McHale factor played a roll in results. In two polls, he had more votes than the Liberal candidate. With his vote count ranging from 27 to 67, the independent candidate made his dent in statistics.

Finley won the Canfield polls where McHale was ahead of Nichols. McHale took a whopping 66 votes in Kohler surpassing Hoskins' 53 and breathing down Finley's 76-vote count.

In Fisherville and Selkirk, McHale pulled in front of Hoskins in three polls.

Dunnville Chronicle, Oct 17/08: *Voters speak at the polls*

A great victory for victims of race-based policing!

For two years, politicians and members of the OPP have been trying to paint Gary McHale as an 'outsider/interloper' with no support from the community. That myth has now been shattered forever! Almost 5,000 people voted for Gary - NOT for any party - and for his message that the law should be applied equally to protect all citizens from lawlessness during land claim disputes.

Dunnville Chronicle: Independent McHale makes strong showing in first campaign

There was disappointment, but also a sense of vindication as Haldimand- Norfolk Independent candidate Gary McHale earned more than 4,800 votes in Tuesday's federal election.

The 46-year-old civil rights advocate finished in fourth place with 4,821 votes, earning 10 per cent of the total votes cast in the riding. Conservative Diane Finley was re-elected with 19,657 votes while Liberal candidate Eric Hoskins earned 15,577 votes and NDP candidate Ian Nichols received 5,549 votes.

"Obviously it's disappointing, but at the same time more than 4,600 people at this point chose to vote for me and not for a party," McHale told The Chronicle shortly after Finley's re-election was announced around 11 p. m. on Tuesday. "As an independent it's very hard to get anyone to vote for you. This also destroys the myth that somehow there are only 40 to 100 people who support me in Caledonia. Obviously there are thousands of people who want me to be a strong voice."

McHale said voter support for his campaign provided a sense of vindication. "The government wanted to paint me as an evil person who created all the violence

(in Caledonia) when the truth of the matter is that that's not true," he said. "The average person saw me as someone who had a strong voice for them."

Mark Vandermaas, vice president and director of research for CANACE, has worked with McHale for the past two years and was alongside him throughout this election campaign. Even though the election results didn't provide the "fairytale ending" that McHale and his supporters wanted Vandermaas viewed the final count of 4,821 votes as a great accomplishment.

"It's just been such an amazing ride," he said shortly after Finley was declared re-elected Haldimand-Norfolk MP. "If you look at where Gary's been— he's been arrested, had his life threatened, been attacked, sent to a hospital and lost his home for Caledonia. He's had his reputation smeared especially by the OPP and supporters of the Douglas Creek occupation so to get to here I think that's an amazing accomplishment. He's made believers of about 4,600 people at this point."

"I think it will be very hard for people to look at Gary and try to blame him for all the problems in Caledonia," Vandermaas added. "Looking at the election results there are at least 4,600 people who disagree. From here on in I think the politicians ignore the injustices in Caledonia at their peril."

Vandermaas said he expected McHale would take a short breather and then continue civil rights activities in Haldimand.

"We will continue to seek justice for people, native and non-native, in Caledonia," he said. "We have a duty to continue to speak out for victims of injustice. Gary is just someone who never gives up—he won't quit. He said to me that he didn't care if anybody in Caledonia wanted him there. He would still go because it's the right thing to do."

Dunnville Chronicle, Doreen Hoover, Oct 17/08: [Independent McHale makes strong showing in first campaign](#)

Other great election stories

- Simcoe Reformer, Oct 16/08: [Conservatives hang on, even in the face of crisis](#)
- CWUC blog, Jeff Parkinson, Oct 15/08: [Apathy prevails in federal election](#)
- Simcoe Reformer, Oct 15/08: [Candidates expect to be back next time](#) (no mention of Hoskins!)

McHale quote: "I'm not going anywhere," he said. "The Charter of Rights isn't going away. I will continue to fight for the people of Caledonia."

What's next?

The struggle against race-based policing will continue to the best of our ability. On Thursday, Oct 16/08 - two days after the election - Gary provided a Hamilton court judge with proof that OPP Commissioner Julian Fantino directed his officers to target Gary for arrest in connection with the Dec 01/07 smokeshack protest in Caledonia before the investigation had begun. Please see VoiceofCanada article, ['McHale submits 'smoking gun' Fantino email to Hamilton court'](#) for more info.

Also, please continue to refer to www.canace.ca, www.caledoniawakeupcall.com and www.voiceofcanada for further information.

Thank you!

The McHale campaign would like to thank all those who volunteered their time and/or donated funds to help support Gary.

Thank you to all those who supported Gary by casting a ballot for him.

Thank you to all those who supported democracy by voting for another candidate.

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