

Thompson registers to run for mayor

By Bill Rea

Following up on the announcement he made last Month, Councillor Allan Thompson has officially registered himself as a candidate for Mayor of Caledon in this fall's municipal elections.

About 40 well-wishers and supporters were on hand when Thompson filled out the necessary papers, and then they joined him for a reception at the Royal Ambassador Event Centre.

First elected in 2003, Thompson served one term as area representative for Ward 2, followed by two terms as Regional rep.

"I know this is a big step," he told supporters at the reception, as he added the area is important to his family. His wife Anne, along with their son James and daughter Julia, were on hand for the occasion, as he pointed out his kids are eighth generation in the area.

"It's always been dear to us," he commented. "It's important."

Thompson said the interests of the community will be best served over the coming years by leadership that is practical and action oriented.

"I have developed a proven track record of bringing together the right people, at the right time, to resolve issues through collaboration and negotiation," he commented.

He also cited two important positions he has held at the Region; chairing the public works committee of council and serving as a provincial government liaison through the intergovernmental affairs committee. In addition, he pointed to his involvement as a board member of the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA).

Thompson told his supporters that good things can happen with the support of a good council, especially considering the challenges facing the municipality.

He pointed out that a provincial highway is likely to run through town, and ways need to be found to make that a benefit.

"We need to have everybody engaged to make that work," he said.

He also said customer service is important to residents.

He also observed that various provincial plans, governing such areas as the Greenbelt, Niagara Escarpment, Oak Ridges Moraine, etc. are up for review. He stressed the need to find out how these plans can be improved to make sure they work for Caledon.

He also announced he will be holding a series of Thompson's Town Halls during the campaign to hear concerns and provide answers for the voters.

"I look forward to having those discussions with you," he said.



Councillor Allan Thompson signed the papers Tuesday, registering himself as a candidate for mayor, as his daughter Julia looked on. Barring a provincial election this year, she will have the chance to vote for her father in her first election.