

Tilson opens election campaign office in Bolton

By Bill Rea

The federal election is almost two months away, and Dufferin-Caledon's Conservative incumbent David Tilson said things are warming up.

He made the observation Friday night to supporters as he officially opened his campaign office in Bolton – one of two offices. "It's very important that we have one here and one in Orangeville," he remarked.

Tilson said he's been campaigning for some time, getting all over the riding, "and we're just getting warmed up," he declared.

He also stressed the importance of volunteers in an election campaign, pointing out one of the purposes behind a campaign office is to encourage people to pitch in. Campaigns can't be run without volunteers, he maintained.

"We've had great support so far, but we need more," he said.

Among the main issues in this campaign is leadership, and Tilson thinks his party has the edge in that department.

"I believe there's no other alternative," he remarked, adding the other parties can criticize the government. But when it comes to putting forth alternative ideas or plans, "They have none."

Tilson also commented on the economy, pointing out Europe is experiencing unemployment numbers on the order of 25 per cent, and 40 per cent for youth. He added there's been plenty of news about Greece and other countries going through rough economic times. He also pointed to the economic policies of Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

"We still have a Triple-A credit rating, which is as good as you're going to get," he remarked.

As well, Tilson commented on matters of security.

"We all want to feel safe to walk out on the street," he said, commenting on the reality of terrorist threats. He recalled the experience last fall with a gunman on Parliament Hill.

"I honestly thought we were going to die," Tilson said, adding there is still a concern. ISIS is a threat to Canada. He also said the government has an obligation to make sure it's safe to walk the streets.

"We are looking forward to a great campaign," Tilson declared. "We have some tough opposition in this riding. It's not going to be easy."



David Tilson received some help from Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones as supporters watched the ribbon cutting at his Bolton campaign office. Photo by Bill Rea