

LifeSiteNews.com Special Report

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Mississauga South Riding Report

By Tony Gosgnach

Mississauga South residents enjoy the option of being able to vote on Jan. 23 for a Liberal MP with an exceptional record of support for human life and the traditional family. Paul Szabo has distinguished himself as one of the most prominent pro-life and pro-family MPs since he was first elected in 1993.

Over the years, he has played a leading role in opposing such measures as same-sex “marriage,” research upon embryonic human beings, cloning, euthanasia and doctor-assisted suicide, while writing a book on fetal alcohol syndrome, supporting an investigation into whether all abortions are medically necessary and regularly attending annual March for Life observances in Ottawa.

Although he won his riding by more than 8,000 votes in 2004, Szabo is dealing with a serious challenge in the face of what election observers are calling a “rising blue tide” of Conservative Party support in Ontario. The problem for pro-life and pro-family supporters is that Conservative leader Stephen Harper has made statements, particularly in the last week of the campaign, that indicate he will use whatever influence he has in Parliament to ensure pro-life legislation doesn’t come to a vote. Harper has also been offering only tepid promises of a free vote on the legal definition of marriage.

Notable for Mississauga South voters is the fact that the Conservative Party candidate in their riding, Phil Green, has refused to take a pro-life, pro-family position and was actually classified as “pro-abortion” during the 2004 election by Campaign Life Coalition, the national political arm of the Canadian pro-life movement.

Mississauga South riding runs from Dundas Street and the Queensway in the north to the shoreline of Lake Ontario in the south, and from Winston Churchill Boulevard and the Mississauga city limits in the west to Etobicoke Creek in the east.

The Candidates and Life and Family Issues

Liberal <i>Paul Szabo</i>	Conservative <i>Phil Green</i>	NDP <i>Mark de Pelham</i>	Green <i>Brendan Terry</i>
One of the most outstanding pro-life and pro-family MPs. Endorsed by Campaign Life Coalition and Vote Marriage Canada.	Has not responded to a CLC questionnaire on life and family issues for this election. Was rated “pro-abortion” in 2004.	Has not responded to CLC questionnaire on life and family issues. Party is pro-abortion and pro-same-sex “marriage.”	Pro-abortion and pro-same-sex “marriage,” as is his party.

Liberal – Paul Szabo



Married with three children, and an accountant by profession, the 57-year-old Szabo has in the course of his political career served as a parliamentary secretary in the Ministry of Public Works and Government Services. He has also been the chair of committees on government operations and estimates.

Although his Liberal party has aggressively promoted abortion “rights” and same-sex “marriage,” Szabo has consistently opposed those stances by vigorously opposing Bill C-38, the act that amended the legal definition of marriage, and by supporting various pro-life initiatives over the years. As long ago as 1980, when he first ran unsuccessfully for Parliament, he indicated his pro-life position in response to Campaign Life Coalition questionnaires. By the early 1990s, as a board member of Mississauga General Hospital, he was battling to stop abortions at that hospital.

Szabo's commitment to pro-life and pro-family causes has won him the endorsement of both Campaign Life Coalition and Vote Marriage Canada in Mississauga South for this election. The national homosexual lobby organization Equality for Gays And Lesbians Everywhere (EGALE), meanwhile, has given him an "F" (failing) grade for not supporting the homosexual agenda in Canada.

Conservative – Phil Green



The 44-year-old Green is married with three children and the president of Greenbridge Management Inc., which helps industries in Canada, the U.S. and elsewhere improve quality, environmental performance, health and safety performance and productivity. He has also been managing director of Canadian operations for Tennessee Associates International, an international management consulting firm.

Green has failed to take a pro-life and pro-family position in this election by refusing to respond to a Campaign Life Coalition questionnaire regarding those issues, saying that the questions are "too personal." He also declined to respond to a question from the independent website wheredotheystand.ca about how he would vote on a motion to define marriage exclusively as a union of one man and one woman.

Green was classified as "pro-abortion" by CLC during the 2004 federal election campaign. This was as a result of a letter in which he indicated that on abortion, "the decision must be left to the conscience of each individual."

NDP – Mark de Pelham



Born in Montreal, de Pelham is 25 years old, bilingual and holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Northern British Columbia. He helped found the campus community radio station, CFUR in Prince George, B.C., and has been active in campaigns staged by the Canadian Federation of Students. He ran against Stephen Harper in Calgary Southwest during the 2004 federal election.

De Pelham has not responded to a CLC questionnaire to determine his position on life and family issues, nor has EGALE assessed him in terms of his support for the homosexual agenda.

However, many NDP candidates in this campaign have been distributing a signed statement by leader Jack Layton committing the party and *all* its candidates to an agenda that includes "women's right to self-determination in every sense, with respect to 'reproductive choices' (abortion) ... in certain situations, physician-assisted death ... (and) a commitment to same-sex 'marriage.'"

Green – Brendan Tarry



The 33-year-old Tarry is a literacy specialist with the YMCA of Greater Toronto and has served as a Red Cross of Canada volunteer, a fundraiser for Greenpeace Canada, worked with Down syndrome youth and has helped develop a mobile literacy service for the Region of Peel.

CLC has rated Tarry pro-abortion and pro-same-sex "marriage," based on his responses to its questionnaire for this election. In addition, EGALE has given him a solid "A-" rating, in terms of his support for the homosexual agenda in Canada. This agenda includes rights for trans-sexuals, a national day against homophobia and the decriminalization of all private sexual activities between consenting adults.

Green Party leader Jim Harris has publicly declared the Green Party's support for same-sex "marriage" and "a woman's right to choose" on abortion.