ALL CANDIDATES ON THE TICKET FOR TWIN BYELECTIONS



Seen: All candidates on the ticket for twin byelections

04.11.2016 Sabrina Nanji byelection

All horses in the tandem by election race were lined up at the gates by Thursday, Elections Ontario's deadline for nominations.

Nine candidates are officially vying for **Tim Hudak**'s former seat in the Tory bastion of Niagara West—Glanbrook, including a candidate from Ontario's newest political party devoted solely to sending a message about Premier **Kathleen Wynne**'s updated sex-ed curriculum. That would be **Queenie Yu** (pictured above), the independent, single-issue, anti-sex-ed candidate who placed fourth in the Scarborough—Rouge River byelection in September. She's now running for the aptly monikered Stop the New Sex Ed Agenda party, although she says she is also backing **Progressive**Conservative candidate **Sam Oosterhoff**, a 19-year-old Brock University student with social conservative leanings — even if she's sparred with his boss, PC Leader **Patrick Brown**, over his evolving stance on the curriculum.

Also on the ticket is Liberal **Vicky Ringuette**, a lawyer with Legal Aid Ontario, and New Democrat **Mike Thomas**, former head of the Hamilton Police Association who is now a security specialist for Hydro One. They'll face **Donna Cridland** for the Green Party, **Greg Vezina** for the None of the Above Party, **Stefanos Karatopis** for the Ontario Libertarian Party, **Arthur Smitherman** for the Canadian Constituents' Party and independent **Martin Poos**.

Over in Ottawa—Vanier, where the Liberals historically reign supreme, there are 11 contestants seeking to take up ex-attorney general **Madeleine Meilleur**'s mantle. And they could be poised to wrest the seat from the Liberals' who, apart from a popularity dip in the polls seemingly amplified by charges laid this week in the Sudbury byelection scandal that also lost the Grits their election campaign director, are up against well-known names. That includes former provincial ombudsman **Andre Marin** for the Tories and ex-RCMP executive **Claude Bisson** for the NDP, whose brother, **Gilles Bisson**, represents Timmins-James Bay at Queen's Park. But Liberal candidate **Nathalie Des Rosiers**, dean of law at the University of Ottawa and a former lawyer for the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, should not be easily dismissed. (*QP Briefing* was in Ottawa last week and sat down to interview Marin, Bisson and Des Rosiers.)

Also running are **Raphael Morin** for the Greens, **Elizabeth de Viel Castel** for Stop the New Sex-Ed, **Dean T. Harris** for the Libertarian Party, **Kevin Clarke** for the Peoples Political Party, **Stephanie McEvoy** for the Canadian Constituents' Party and **David McGruer** for the Freedom Party.

Some familiar faces have emerged, too. The None of the Above Party is running **Above Znoneofthe**, famed name-changer in the Whitby-Oshawa byelection, and **John Turmel**, who holds the Guinness record for most contested elections, is running for the Pauper Party of Ontario.

Advance polls open Nov. 5 and by election day is Nov. 17.

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