

SETTING THE POLITICAL AGENDA 2007

The next provincial Election is Oct. 10, 2007. Autism Ontario will be working with its members to help shape the political agenda. Each registered candidate will receive a set of questions to answer; questions that have been formulated by a team of Autism Ontario volunteers and staff from across the province.

Now we need your help, too. We will be proactive now. We will not wait another four years before actively engaging political candidates on what our priorities are for people with ASD in this province.

What can you do?

- VOTE!
- Encourage others to vote!
- Help your Chapter to host an all-candidates meeting. We will provide you with all of the information you need to do this successfully.
- Follow up with every candidate in your riding to ensure that they respond to the questions they have been sent.
- Direct people to www.autismontario.com/election2007 where we will be tracking each candidate's response to the questions.
- Encourage interested community members to speak with local candidates about local ASD-related issues.
- If you are a Chapter Leader, read the article on What Charities Can and Cannot Do, included in your Presidents' Council handouts.

Leading the Election 2007 Team is Adult Issues Working Group Volunteer, Howard Weinroth

Howard says, "I have been involved in political and community advocacy for the Developmentally Disabled for over 30 years. I have a 35 year old son with autism. My involvement in the political arenas on all levels occurred while I was: President of Autism Society Ontario (as it was known then), President of Autism Society Canada, and Kerry's Place Autism Services Chair for 5 years and Board Member for 15 years." Howard can be reached at: h.weinroth@sympatico.ca

**NOW IS THE TIME TO SET THE AGENDA!!
JOIN AUTISM ONTARIO'S ELECTION 2007 TEAM**

Autism Ontario will be engaging members, friends, professionals, and candidates to share our views on a number of significant issues facing the ASD community.

The time is NOW! What better opportunity to keep autism on the political radar during this election. To raise the level of awareness on the issues facing the ASD community, Autism Ontario will:

- Send out our list of prepared questions to the leaders of the three major political parties and make their responses available to the public.
- Send out the same list of questions to all declared candidates, using a list provided by Elections Ontario.
- Create a new area on our website to track each answer submitted.

Leave your name with us...

On your table is a bright blue piece of paper, entitled, "**The Autism Ontario Elections 2007 Team!**" Please fill it in to let us know of your interest in making sure that every candidate in October's provincial election is aware of the issues surrounding Autism Spectrum Disorders.