

Michael Houlton's Declaration

Peel Region Bldg. BK.

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And you thought there were only four national parties

By JOHN STEWART

Michael Houlton, who recently founded a new federal political party, was in Mississauga this week and expanded on his party's platform.

Houlton, who has just turned 28, formed the Canadian Alternative Canadienne Party after unsuccessfully seeking office on several occasions.

His chequered political career began in 1972 when he ran for the Liberal nomination in the federal riding of Mississauga. When he was defeated, he ran as an independent, gaining just over 500 votes.

He has run for the provincial leadership of the Ontario Liberal Party and was defeated last September in his bid for a provincial seat in Ottawa, where he now lives. He was once again running as an independent.

Houlton has made front-page news for his outbursts in the House of

Commons and the Quebec Assembly. He has twice been thrown out of the House of Commons, once after breaking past securi-

ty guards onto the House floor and screaming, "I demand freedom of speech." Earlier this year, he earned the dubious distinction

of having the Speaker of the Quebec Legislature tell him to "shut up" after he made a speech from the public gallery.

In a note to newsmen following his ejection from the building, Houlton proclaimed, "After 110 years of Confederation, Canada is indivisible, Canada is sexy."

Houlton has drafted a Canadian Declaration of Independence, which basically forms the party's platform. Many of the ideas, including the "trinity" of left, right and centre politics and a proposal for only seven ministries in government with one "super-ministry" of health, welfare and life, have been recycled from his earlier campaigns in Mississauga.

The logo, which was developed as part of his Can-Ad company to promote Canadian-owned products, is now used to represent the CAC party.

Some of Houlton's other ideas, which he expects to have endorsed at the party's first convention in Ottawa in September, include a proposal for a Canadian dictionary ("lists thousands of words identical in French and English, spelling and meaning"); a proposal to elect a president who will represent Canada at the United Nations and be responsible for the department of external affairs; primal therapy for prisoners; a Canadian Liquor, Cannabis and Cigarette Control Board; and Universe City, a billion-dollar municipality of 100,000 young people "building an ecologically sound, self-sufficient, solar-wind energized, recycling, cultural city on the Quebec-Ontario border

at James Bay, with transportation links and the communication lines creating 300,000 new jobs and financed equally by the Ontario, Quebec and Canadian governments and free enterprise."

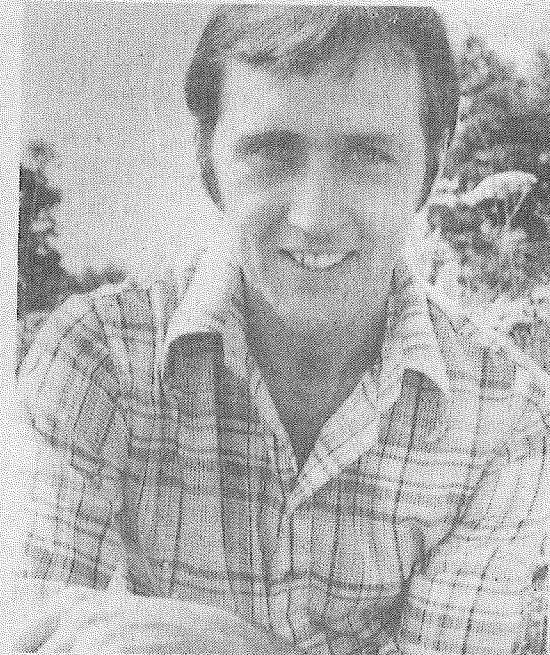
One proposal which has drawn attention is a suggestion to end "give-away" programs from the federal government by offering a "citizen's salary" of \$2,500 yearly to all those who vote.

"We are the government," says Houlton. "We elect politicians to represent our views. Because they're paid, they often get the idea that they're the elite. We are all with the government."

He claims the \$2,500 citizen's salary will eliminate the unnecessary

bureaucracy of the Unemployment Insurance Commission, veteran's allowance, workman's compensation and old age and welfare benefit programs.

The former Mississauga resident says the idea is designed to promote a "basic, harmonious society by plugging everyone into the system and paying them to be responsible."



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