

Miltenberger to run for MLA against Groenewegen



Marc Miltenberger

BY SEAN PERCY
HUB EDITOR

The first opponent for the incumbent Hay River MLAs has announced his intention to seek a seat in the Legislative Assembly.

Local businessman Marc Miltenberger says he will run in the Hay River South riding against Jane Groenewegen, who has been undefeated in 12 years.

Marc Miltenberger, the younger brother of Fort Smith MLA Michael Miltenberger, said there's a desire for change in the people he's been talking to.

He said he was thinking about running in the last election, but with both his children off to school in the South this coming year, he'll now have a better opportunity to put more energy into the job.

"It's not something to rush into. I have given it a lot of

thought and deliberation," said Miltenberger, 44.

Having his brother in politics for a long time has given him a unique perspective of territorial politics, he said.

His political experience is limited to a year-and-a-half stint as a councillor while living in Fort Simpson, before he became the village superintendent.

Born in Yellowknife, but having lived in Rae, Fort Simpson and Fort Smith, as well as 14 years in Hay River, including the past 11, he has experience in a variety of fields that will be useful in political life, he said.

A hockey player and volunteer coach, Miltenberger works as the bulk plant agent for Imperial Oil, and as such also has a good picture of how Hay River fits into the territorial economy.

It will also be an advantage having the political allies that the family name brings with it.

But he's not his brother, he points out.

"I'm Marc Miltenberger from Hay River and I want what's best for Hay River."

Infrastructure, health and social services, and education will be top issues in the campaign, he predicts.

Miltenberger says he knows that unseating Groenewegen won't be easy.

"Jane is one of the best campaign strategists around. She has to be, after four terms," he said. "I'm confident I have a better than average chance."

By announcing his intentions early, and starting his campaign, Miltenberger is getting a head start on Groenewegen.

She says she has a job to do as an MLA now, and won't start her campaign now just because Miltenberger has.

"I'm not going to start campaigning. We have a lot of leg-

Notable Election Campaign Dates:

June 2 - Prospective candidates can start incurring expenses to promote themselves.
Sept. 3 - Nominations open. People can start contributing money to campaigns.
Sept. 7 - Nominations close.
Oct. 1 - Election Day.

isolation and work to complete before dissolution Aug. 31," said Groenewegen, though she confirmed that she is still planning to run.

Miltenberger says he won't be campaigning heavily through the summer, but he will be listening to what people tell him about the issues.

"I don't want to wear out my welcome," he said.

Woman held captive in radio station

A local woman says she thought she was going to be raped when she was attacked on the third floor of the highrise as she headed to host her afternoon Christian radio show.

She says the man followed her up the stairs on June 5, then pushed his way into the radio station. She says she fought with him for two and a half hours before he left, and that kept him from raping her.

She thinks he was on drugs, and that he left when the drugs started to wear off.

Despite the scare and numerous bruises, she was back at the radio station the next

day, after police arrested a suspect that night.

Noel Avadluk, 34, was arrested on an unrelated break and enter at Kingland Ford, in which stolen property was recovered.

He has since been charged in connection with the incident at the highrise.

Avadluk faces charges of sexual assault, unlawful confinement, obstructing a police officer, uttering threats, break and enter, and breach of undertaking. He is to next appear in court in Yellowknife on June 19, and is being held in custody until then.

More support for Tamerlane mine

The news just keeps getting better for Tamerlane Venture Inc.

Last week, the Hay River Métis Council wrote a letter of support for the project to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board, which is examining the proposed lead-zinc underground mine near Polar Lake.

"The Hay River Métis Government Council is satisfied with the results and work undertaken by Tamerlane Ventures Inc. to consult with and respect the Aboriginal rights of the Hay River Métis Government Council and their members," wrote president Vern Jones.

"We are in support of Tamerlane's application," the Council wrote.

Hay River North MLA Paul Delorey

also wrote a support letter.

"I applaud the effort that Tamerlane has demonstrated to date in communicating and consulting with the public, First Nations and Government agencies. It is very evident that the project has generated strong support from all stakeholders. I know that the Pine Point Project will generate significant economic benefits for the Northwest Territories and, in particular, to the residents of Hay River," wrote Delorey.

The letters join a growing stack of support letters at the review board office which also includes support letter from Hay River South MLA Jane Groenewegen, the Town of Hay River, Deninu Kue First Nation and the K'at'l'odeeche First Nation.

CREWS WORKING SUMMER HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE

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The summer highway maintenance program has begun. Watch for signage and obey flag people at all construction areas.

STAY SAFE.

Respect maintenance workers and their right to a safe work environment.

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THIS ABORIGINAL DAY CELEBRATE SAFELY



On **June 21** we celebrate the rich culture and heritage of our nation's aboriginal people.

The 11th national Aboriginal Day marks a time to reflect on the history and contributions of native peoples from across Canada and throughout the North.

While traveling to visit relatives and friends during these celebrations please keep road safety in mind. Bring a spare tire and emergency kit, tell someone your travel plans and always wear your seat belt.

Enjoy the Celebrations,

Hon. Kevin Menicoche
Minister of Transportation

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We're getting ready
to print the new
Hay River
Phone Directory
and need your help!

Please contact The Hub if any of the
following apply to you:

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- You have moved locations within town
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- Or have any other issues with the Phone Directory

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