

CANDIDATE	<i>What are the benefits of a post-secondary institution in your municipality?</i>	<i>What are the key challenges of being the host community of a post-secondary institution?</i>	<i>How do you plan to address these challenges?</i>
Hamilton, Rob	Georgian College plays a critical role in making Barrie a community where families can live, work and play. Specifically, Georgian will provide the training programs necessary to attract and to retain business investment that in turn will provide well paying jobs right here in Barrie. Ideally, Georgian graduates will not have to leave Barrie to get a job.	In the case of Georgian College, the major challenge is to support the expansion of the College's programs to meet the ever increasing enrolment demand.	During my term as Mayor, Council made a \$5 million contribution to Georgian College for the College's Health and Wellness Centre, now under construction. As Mayor, I will continue to work closely with the College to advocate federal and provincial support necessary to meet its continuing enrolment demands.
Tascona, Joe	There are many benefits of having post-secondary institutions in Barrie. Currently, Georgian College is Barrie's primary post-secondary institution. The geographic proximity of the College, affordability and range of programs is of great benefit to Barrie residents. Georgian College has taken on a new project with the development of the Georgian Centre for Health and Wellness which is slated for completion March 31, 2011. The new facility will have an economic impact of the construction of \$ 98 million which is equivalent to the effect of a mid-sized corporation moving to Barrie and will provide 400 new full and part-time jobs for staff and faculty. The first phase will accommodate 1800 new Health Services students and the second phase will accommodate 3,000 students. Georgian College is doing a great job but we also need a university which will provide our children with university programs so that they can stay close to home and study.	The key challenges of being the host community of a post-secondary institution is housing, transportation services, and the need for other services such as family physicians or health-care providers.	Many of the challenges relate to the housing. Students occupy many homes in residences surrounding the institution. There must be more consultation with home owners in the neighbourhoods which surround the post-secondary institution and ensure by-laws are in place to meet the needs of the residents. If reasonable by-laws are in place they should be enforced not complaint driven. If the home owner and the student tenant knows the rules of the municipality and know the rules will be enforced there should be compliance.