



URA All Candidates Meeting October 5, 2015



URA hosted a Federal All Candidates Meeting on October 5, 2015 at the Markham Pan Am Centre. Three candidates participated:

- Bang-Gu Jiang, Liberal Party
- Elvin Kao, Green Party
- Bob Saroya, Conservative Party

The event was video recorded. Summarized below are the candidate responses to several questions (edited by our Vice President, Alick Siu). Links to the actual videos are provided.

Bang Gu Jiang – Self Introduction

This election is about choice - whether you want economic growth and jobs. Liberals will create jobs with significant infrastructure investment. Liberals will cut taxes on the middle class and will help the middle class by investing in social infrastructure such as affordable housing and child care.

<https://youtu.be/FfFNWQjhAJU>

Elvin Kao – Self Introduction

Green party is the only party that does not require elected reps to follow the party line on votes, meaning my priority is constituents and the party line second. With investment in oil sands and participation in military coalitions, we are no longer a peace keeping country or a compassionate country.

In a global crisis like Syria, we are not doing our global share. We have dropped many environment laws and withdrew from the Kyoto Accord. As an MP, I will go to the environment summit in November and will talk to leaders to set fair and equitable goals amongst nations on greenhouse gases. I have talked to friends helping refugees and I don't think we have done enough. We will definitely expedite the processing time. Green party will accept 25,000 refugees. Our population is aging and we are not stimulating the economy. With working immigrants, we can have increased senior care.

<https://youtu.be/dt0QTRcIFqI>

Bob Saroya – Self Introduction

The role of government is to protect the safety of Canadians and manage the economy for the benefit of citizens. Stephen Harper will fully participate in NATO. A soft voice will not work to protect our country. Stephen Harper led the country during the financial crisis, with Canada having the best performance among the G7 and G20. Yes, economic growth is slow but we will balance the budget, unlike Trudeau who will put the country back in deficit or Mulcair who will raise corporate taxes that kill jobs.

<https://youtu.be/6C2UoYvValo>



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Information

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Our population is aging and our health care system is not world class. What would your party do to improve health care?

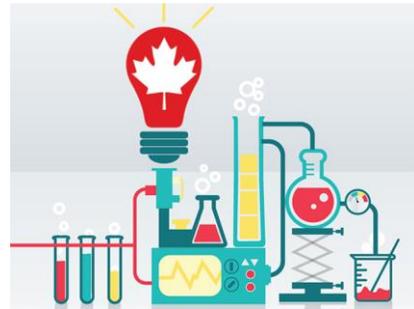
Bangu – Health care is a source of national pride. Trudeau will have partnerships with the provinces and will talk with the provinces on prioritization and funding and will reduce drug medication costs. Home care is very important and we will invest \$3B next 4 years for this.

Elvin – We take a holistic approach and will take care of our air and drinking water even before you need to go to hospital. We will bring back water protection laws that the Conservatives cancelled. We want to implement pharmacare as an extension of current health care system. If seniors have to pay too much on drugs, they likely will not take the prescription. We want them to stay healthier so that they go to hospital less frequently, and reduce stress on the system. We are going to save Canadians billions with collective buying of pharmaceuticals and this will help out Canadians who have no drug coverage.

Bob - Canadian health care is the best in the world. Health care is important to us and our families. We partner with the provinces. In 2006 when the Conservatives came to power, we spent \$7 billion and now we are \$14 billion. In 9 years, we have doubled our spending. We are increasing funding to the provinces. How they use the money is up to them, as the provinces deliver health care.



With the decline of our oil and manufacturing industries, what will your party do to improve Canada's ability to innovate?



Bangu - Liberals will invest \$200 million to incubate and accelerate research and to finance small successful businesses wanting to grow and export. We are going to have an industrial research assistance program of \$100 million. We are going to have \$200 million for sector specific strategies to support fishing and agriculture sectors.

Bob - Yes the oil price is down but it did not make a difference. Suncor announced yesterday that they will spend \$6.8 billion on oil sands. The innovation is there. Investments like this will bring money and jobs.

Elvin - Greens will invest in renewable energy resources. Historically, investment in renewable energy creates more jobs than oil sands do. This will be done thru a revenue neutral carbon tax. Greens want to invest in transportation which will create jobs and boost the local economy. We want to invest in high speed rail. National rail has been a backbone for Canada since 1900. We should have high speed rail across all or a portion of the country. North America does not have high speed rail but Europe, China, Japan and Asia do. High speed rail can bring in innovation and make Canada a more innovative country.

What do you see as Markham's key issues and what will your party do about them?

Elvin - The main concern of Markham Unionville is immigration. There are residents who want to bring in a family member, but they are facing long reunion times. Conservatives have not been kind to immigration. Between 2011 - 2013, we had a sharp decline in immigration. We also see that processing fees for immigration were \$100 but were raised to \$300 in February and raised again to \$530 in December 2014. Conservatives also wanted to cut health care for refugees until the Supreme Court rejected this. Conservatives have lowered taxes but they are doing a lot of things that are unethical like data destruction.

Bangu - Transportation is most important, with Hwys 404, 401 always congested. Liberals will spend \$20B in next 10 years for transportation and will partner with provincial and municipal governments. Will let municipality choose the projects and will work with provinces to get predictability on funding.

What do you see as the reason for high youth unemployment and what would your party do about this?



Elvin - We want the university curriculum to be based on future market projections so most Canadian graduates can find a job in areas where there is a need. Youth can't find jobs these days because we are losing many manufacturing jobs. We invested in oil sands in 2009 and afterwards, when oil was \$120 or \$130, it pushed the Canadian dollar high and we lost many manufacturing jobs and we are unable to export anything else.

Bob - We believe in creating the atmosphere for the private sector to create jobs.

Sept. 28 Maclean's Magazine had the headline "Vanishing Canada - it's not just the census but Ottawa is destroying research, wiping web sites and deleting government records". What is your opinion on this?

Bob - I can't comment on Maclean's, but remember the thousands of emails deleted by the Ontario Liberals.

Bangu - We have so much information and it is supposed to be easy for citizens to look for information. Liberals will change Access to Information Act making it easier for anybody to access information and make government open and transparent. We are going to make parliamentarians disclose their expenses. Government policy should be based on facts.

Elvin - I am a data analyst and I believe in data driven decision making and it really pissed me off that the long form census is gone making it harder to make informed decisions. It is very difficult to find greenhouse gas emissions totals. Green party believes in research and making data available for schools so that they can come up with innovative ideas.



More Videos on You Tube:



Markham Unionville Candidates on health care
<https://youtu.be/A187x7YbdHY>

Markham Unionville Candidates on Markham's key issues
<https://youtu.be/Fb0NBxUy7pg>

Markham Unionville Candidates on data destruction
<https://youtu.be/UL3mzapB2Rc>

Markham Unionville Candidates on innovation
https://youtu.be/0_4M_rCFC5Y

Markham Unionville Candidates on saving Canada's international reputation
<https://youtu.be/pDtMIHGhtEI>

Markham Unionville Candidates on marijuana
<https://youtu.be/kfNMiut6Gm0>

Markham Unionville Candidates on immigration
https://youtu.be/_qsWbS2M-tc

Markham Unionville Candidates on Justin Trudeau admiring China
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_rmQKHDouh0

What is the URA?

A non-partisan association of the residents of Unionville

- ✓ Boundaries: Warden Ave. to McCowan Rd. and Sixteenth Ave. to Hwy 407
- ✓ Founded in 1974 to protect the interests of the community
- ✓ Registered with the Province of Ontario and the City of Markham

What does URA do?

- ✓ Stays current on events, activities and issues in Unionville
- ✓ Keeps our members informed through regular email broadcasts and monthly meetings (with guest speakers on hot topics)
- ✓ Ensures our residents' views are known and communicated to local, regional and provincial government officials and representatives
- ✓ Provides information on our website on active issues
- ✓ Organizes special events (e.g. All-Candidates meetings during elections, issue based meetings)

Special Membership Offer

We are pleased to announce a new fall membership special offer

Renew Now to the end of 2016 for just \$20 or

to the end of 2017 for \$35

