

## The battle for Sarnia-Lambton

Heather Wright  
The Independent

The leaders of the two front-running parties seem to have their eyes set on the Sarnia-Lambton riding.

As June 7 inched closer NDP Leader Andrea Horwath made two stops in six days in the riding while PC Leader Doug Ford stopped in Reece's Corners to host a Facebook Live event at Reid's Fruit Farm and answer a few questions.

Polls leading up to the vote have put the NDP and PCs within a hairs breath of each other in popular support. The PCs, the data reveals, seem to have a better prospect of winning more seats.

Bob Bailey, who is seeking his fourth term, took the seat from the governing Liberals in 2007 by a margin of 3,702 votes. In 2011, Bailey walked away with a victory by 9,263 votes. But he didn't sustain that margin of victory in 2014, when the NDPs Brian White came within 2,442 votes of taking the seat.

After his Facebook event Friday morning, Ford brushed off questions of whether the Conservatives are concerned about the seat. "I think there is a real great community here. They understand what would happen if (Sarnia-Lambton) ever went orange (to the NDP). "It would destroy companies here, families, it would destroy family farms," he told reporters adding Bailey is "the best representative that fights for them."

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HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

NDP Leader Andrea Horwath has made three stops in Sarnia-Lambton this election including this one Wednesday when PC Leader Doug Ford was also in the riding in Wyoming.

## STRAINING TO THE FINISH



BRUCE SMITH PHOTO

Riley Blancher of LCCVI leaps over the hurdles competing in the Senior Girls 100 m Hurdles during the West Region Qualifier. Just two of nearly a dozen Lancers will be heading to OFSSA in Toronto this weekend, Carson Peer and Cody Bell. **For more coverage see page 10.**

## Lambton's \$12.6 million construction season underway

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Drivers who use Petrolia Line to get between Petrolia and East Lambton will have to find an alternate route as the summer construction gets underway.

The County of Lambton has begun

working on a road project on Petrolia Line between Little Ireland Road and Old Walnut Road which will cause traffic tie ups until Aug. 31.

It's part of \$12.6 million in construction which will take place this summer. In all 42 kilometers of roads will be repaved, nine kilometres of shoulders paved, two bridges will be rebuilt, and

five bridges will be rehabilitated.

There will be a lot of construction in Central Lambton. A project to repave Bentpath Line from Oil Heritage Road to Mandaumin Road is already underway. Inwood Road between Courtright Line and Bentpath Line will also be recycled.

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