Former aldermanic hopeful Hall defeats Dickason for NDP nod

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One-time aldermanic candidate Lori Hall defeated retired University of Alberta history professor Olive Dickason to win the federal NDP nomination in Edmonton-North on Tuesday.

"I'm telling you I'm willing to put my neck on the line. I'm ready to go through the largest job interview of my life," said Hall, who finished third in Ward 2 last October.

The 35-year-old homemaker handily defeated Dickason, who unsuccessfully fought her mandatory retirement in the Supreme Court of Canada, and United Church minister Bob Settle.

Hall told 132 voting delegates she would work hard to stop the free-trade deal with Mexico and show the Conservatives and Liberals to be wasteful spenders.

The New Democratic Party is expected to make a strong showing in the working-class riding in the next federal election.

Dickason, 73, said she may run somewhere else. "Politics was the last thing I had on my mind and it was a great experience. Certainly the door isn't closed to another attempt."

Dickason lives in the Edmonton-Strathcona riding, but parachuted into Edmonton-North at the request of party members.

The riding is held by retiring Tory MP Steve Paproski; the Conservatives haven't picked a candidate to replace him.

Hall also faces Liberal John Loney and Reformer Ron Mix.