

# Clarington Emergency & Fire Services Recognize Staff

CLARINGTON - In 1974, Clarke and Darlington Townships merged as a result of regional amalgamation. They formed the Town of Newcastle. The three local fire departments also joined and formed the Town of Newcastle Fire Department. Since that time, the department has evolved and grown into a composite fire service, made up of full-time and volunteer or part-time firefighters.

Today, Clarington Emergency and Fire Services operate from five fire stations. Two additional stations were built as the community expanded, one in Courtice in 1979 and the other in Enniskillen in 1989.

At last night's annual awards ceremony, we recognized Clarington Emergency and Fire Services staff for their dedication and service to our Clarington community. Hosted at the Bowmanville Fire Hall, the evening recognized long-term service awards, promotions, and new recruits, as well as award recipients and retirements. Top recognitions from the evening included:

- 35 years of service - Randy Cowan, Harry Koerssen, Mark Ulrich  
 - Core Value Awards - Jay Hansen, Todd Stephens and Ryan TeBogt  
 - Mayor's Award - Dustin Forsey  
 A special congratulations to Fire Chief Dave Speed on his retirement—wishing him all the best in this next chapter!

David Speed, the former Clarington Fire Chief, retired in September 2025 after serving in the role since February 2023. He has over 30 years of experience in emergency services, with previous roles including Chief Fire Prevention Officer in Whitby and Deputy Chief for Oshawa Fire Services. Following his retirement, Clarington appointed an interim Fire Chief while it undertakes a search for a permanent replacement.

Prior to Clarington: Speed was Fire Chief for Whitby and had held senior leadership roles, including Deputy Chief, at Oshawa Fire Services. His career started with Markham Fire and Emergency Services in 1995.

Key contributions: He is known for developing Whitby's first Fire Master Plan and Community Risk Assessment, and for leading Clarington's Fire Response Risk Analysis.

Retirement: Speed's last day was September 26, 2025.

Current situation: The Municipality of Clarington has appointed Mariano Perini as the interim Fire Chief for up to 24 months to ensure leadership continuity while a search for a permanent chief takes place.

Clarington's Public Works boss will be seeing double duty as fire chief for the next two years as the municipality scrambles to fill the shoes of retiring fire chief David Speed.

Speed, who was appointed chief in February 2023, announced his retirement late last month, with his final day Friday September 26.

Clarington will look to name Public Works Director Mariano Perini as interim fire chief Monday's council meeting, with the term lasting up to 24 months, allowing for "uninterrupted leader-



ship" while the town undergoing the recruitment process.

Financial arrangements ensure funding remains in place for the role, with interim salary savings directed to priority initiatives.

The dual-role mode will also align with the anticipated

opening of the Clarington Operations Depot and Emergency Fire Station project. The timing positions the incoming permanent fire chief to assume the role in time for the official opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony of the new fire station and training facility on Liberty Street and Concession Road 4.

The new fire hall is an \$8.3 million project – approved in the 2025 budget – that will be funded through development charges.

Speed, a former Whitby Fire Chief, began his career in 1995 as a firefighter with the Markham fire department.

## HOW SAFE IS IT TO GO SHOPPING AT THE PICKERING MALL?

PICKERING - It appears that it is becoming dangerous to shop at Pickering Mall. All kinds of petty and major crimes have been reported. Just Lately a

female was taken into custody following the theft of sunglasses valued at \$30,000 from a business in the Shops at Pickering City Centre. Two suspects

remain outstanding. On Monday, September 29, 2025, at approximately 8:20 p.m., three females entered the Lenscrafters store located in the Shops at Pickering

City Centre at 1355 Kingston Road. The three suspects stole more than 60 pairs of designer sunglasses before fleeing the store.

Through investigation, members of the West Division Criminal Investigations Branch (CIB) were able to identify two suspects. On Sunday, October 26, 2025, the West Division CIB team executed a search warrant at a residence in the area of Dundas Street West and Scarlett Road in Toronto. Over \$25,000 of the stolen property was located.

On Sunday, November 23, 2025, members of West Division took one of the identified suspects into custody without incident.

**Carolyn Vanessa WALKER**, age 33 from Toronto is charged with: Theft Over \$5000, and Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Over \$5000.

A 17-year-old female from Mississauga is wanted for: Theft Over \$5000, and Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Over \$5000.

An unidentified third suspect is wanted for: Theft Over \$5000, and Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Over \$5000.

WALKER was held for a bail hearing.

Investigators are advising the suspects to contact counsel and turn themselves into police. Anyone who is found to be assisting the suspects to evade police is guilty of an offence under the Criminal Code of Canada and will be prosecuted to the full extent.

Going shopping is taking a whole new meaning as it has gone from something

pleasurable to something dangerous.

Earlier this year petty crime from car jacking attempts to

theft with guns and knives. Pickering is dire need of more police patrol in order to deter the crime wave.

**ARMY SURPLUS STORE**  
**NOW OPEN IN OSHAWA**

**DURHAMS #1**  
 Indoor Airsoft Range

**WE OFFER A HUGE:**

Selection of new and militray surplus...  
 airsoft , airguns, knives, tactical gear, security, boots and more.

**COME CHECK US OUT**

Camouflage Military Surplus and Supplies  
 600 Grandview St S, Oshawa, ON L1H 8P4  
**(365) 633-7172**

**CAMOUFLAGE**  
 ARMY STORE LIKE NO OTHER  
 MILITARY SURPLUS

**Here is how to reach us**

By mail: 136 Simcoe St North, Unit 4  
 Oshawa, Ontario. L1G 4S7  
 Tel: (905) 432-2657

Administration (General Inquiries)  
 Tel: (905) 432-2605 Circulation  
 Tel: (905) 432-9987

Classified/Display Advertising  
 Tel: (905) 432-9989

News Tips And Information  
 or Fax: (905) 404-0887  
 Our On line address is:  
 URL <http://www.oshawacentral.com>  
 We publish every Tuesday.

At The Oshawa Central Newspaper we understand the growing public concern for the environment. We do our part by forecasting the demand of the papers published, based on our sales performance records. By forecasting the quantities we are able to determine the amount required to publish. This way we eliminate recycling and assure that everyone that receives a copy will want one to read. Any Newspapers that are not sold are delivered throughout the City on a promotional basis. In most cases the free papers will be a day or two old. If you want Oshawa's Number One Newspaper delivered to your door on time every Tuesday do your part and subscribe today, like the many of your neighbors.

Email: [newspaper@oshawacentral.com](mailto:newspaper@oshawacentral.com)  
**World's First Online (Internet) Newspaper Since 1993**