

**THE CENTRAL**  
PROFESSIONAL GRADE NEWSPAPER

TIME TESTED  
INDUSTRY RESPECTED  
EXCEPTIONALLY WELL READ

**YOUR #1 REGIONAL NEWS SOURCE**

**ADVERTISING INQUIRIES CALL 905-432-2657**

# (DRPS) proudly welcomed 21 new recruits

On Thursday, May 21, the Durham Regional Police Service (DRPS) proudly welcomed 21 new recruits during a graduation ceremony in Whitby. The ceremony featured the DRPS Pipes and Drums and the DRPS Choir, as family and friends gathered to celebrate this milestone achievement. Chief Peter Moreira formally welcomed the graduating class and presented each officer with their badge and a challenge coin engraved with the Oath of Office and presented to each recruit prior to the ceremony as a

reminder of this oath and the trust placed in each of them by the community they serve. The recruits went on to recite their Declaration of Membership, affirming their dedication to serve with integrity and respect. Constable Kylie Ferguson was chosen as valedictorian, and provided remarks that had the crowd smiling, laughing and tearing up. She referenced the journey they have been on so far with one another at Ontario Police College and training, as well as the new one they're about to embark

upon within their careers as police officers. Chief Moreira also shared words of guidance for the new officers: "Today, you will receive your badges. That badge represents authority, responsibility, and accountability—but more importantly, it represents the trust of the community. You will meet people at their most vulnerable. You will be asked to help, to listen, and to lead in difficult situations. In every one of those interactions, you have the opportunity to build trust—or break it. That trust is the foundation of effective polic-

ing. Guard it fiercely." Constable Ferguson was further recognized with the Allan D. Christiansen Memorial Award, an honour voted on by her peers. The award highlights leadership, positivity, commitment to fitness, and dedication to volunteerism—qualities that reflect Allan D. Christiansen's lasting legacy. The newly sworn officers will now continue their journey with coach officers, gaining frontline experience across platoons throughout Durham Region. This event came right after the announcement in Ajax of a new police station. Policing is much needed in the community as crime appears to be on the rise. At that May 12 committee meeting, a motion from Regional Chair John Henry was supported 4-2 to push the DRPS plan to the 2027 budget instead of having it come to the May 27 full council meeting. The financing impact of the ten-year \$1.1 billion Durham Regional Police Service (DRPS) capital outlay plan, forecasts a 25 per cent growth in regional tax over 10 years. "The additional \$1 billion in forecasted debenture financing for the DRPS Major Facility Capital Program increases the region's 2026 to 2036 debt forecast for property tax and water and sewer services from approximately \$4 billion to \$5 billion, an increase of 25 per cent," stated a region report. It said after leveraging the available funding sources, including all development charges, known senior government funding opportunities, significant debt, and reserve and reserve fund financing, annual incremental overall property tax increases are projected at: 4.62 per cent in 2027, 4.25 per cent in 2028, 4.06 per cent in 2029, and 3.64 per cent in both 2030 and 2031, reducing to roughly 2.2 per cent per year for 2032 to 2036. Oshawa councillors Brian Nicholson and Tito-Dante Marimpietri, frustrated at

what happened two weeks ago at a finance and administration committee meeting, want all of council to have a chance to talk about the 10-year plan. Nicholson and Marimpietri want the committee motion to push the DRPS plan to the 2027 budget withdrawn, but they'll need a majority vote to get that done. They also want council to endorse the police strategy in principle, but also to prepare "a timing, financing and business plan in support of this plan," and "that regional staff investigate all financial options to fund the plan with

a goal of reducing the potential impact on regional property taxes." Their final goal is to see if it's possible to get new funding models from the federal and provincial governments to help ease the burden on local taxpayers. "We need a full financial analysis on costs and timing," Nicholson said, noting the current model is "60 years out of date." This is the same councillor that has a crime infested ward and needs policy badly.

**Vitality**  
HOME CARE  
PSW & NURSING  
YOU CAN TRUST

Compassionate care.  
Professional support.  
Peace of mind.

- Personal Care
- Nursing Care
- Companionship & Support
- Reliable & Trusted

**289-355-8852**  
**VITALITYLIVING.CA**  
*Care that feels like family.*

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

**DO YOU OWN A HOME AND NEED?**

**APPROVED**

**Debt Consolidation With High Unsecured Debt Loan**

**CALL 1-877-834-9346**

**CTMS**  
CANADIAN TAILORED MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS  
Mortgages tailor made!