



LET ME BE YOUR VOICE FOR

SCHESHAWNA LEMAIRE

CITY COUNCILLOR
WARD 5 OSHAWA



Being a resident of Ward 5 for the past 51 years, I have seen many economic and social changes within southern Oshawa.

As your City Councillor for Ward 5, I will work to strengthen community programs that support families, seniors, and youth.

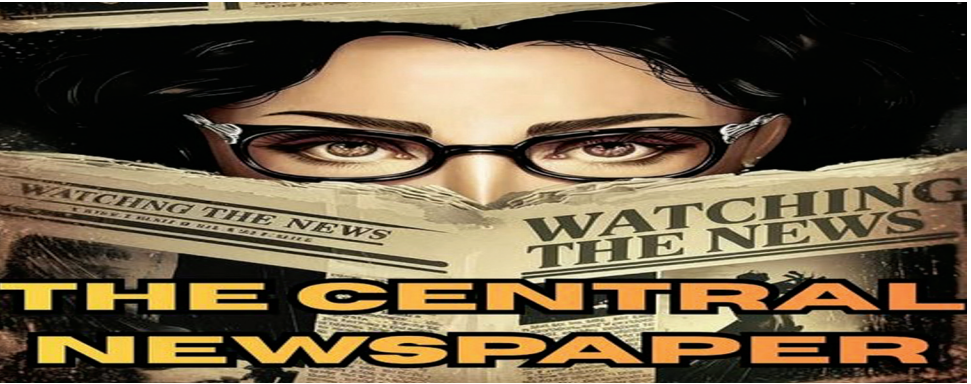
I respect the efforts made by those serving. **BUT IT IS TIME FOR CHANGE.**

- ✓ A NEW VOICE THAT CARES ABOUT YOU.
- ✓ WITH YOUR HELP WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR EVERYONE.
- ✓ NO MORE ECONOMIC SUFFERING. NO MORE EXCUSES FOR FAILURE.



Please get involved by volunteering, ordering a sign, or donating to our community through my campaign. Please call me any time.

 **905-441-7953** |  scheshawnaward5@gmail.com



VOTE KEVIN TAYLOR

Regional Councillor, Wards 3 & 4

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ALWAYS AVAILABLE

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Letters To The Editor:

WHAT IS ON YOUR MIND? Send letters to newspaper@ocentral.com

Dear Editor:

Living in Oshawa is becoming harder every year, and ordinary working people are feeling the pressure from every direction. This is a city built by hardworking families, tradespeople, seniors, small-business owners and people who believed that if they worked hard, paid their bills and contributed to their community, they could build a decent life. Today, that promise feels like it is slipping away.

The cost of housing has become overwhelming. Rent is out of reach for many people, and home ownership is becoming little more than a dream for young families. Seniors who spent their lives building this community are watching their property taxes, grocery bills, utilities and everyday expenses climb while many live on fixed incomes. People are working longer hours and still struggling to keep food on the table.

Families are being forced to make choices they should never have to make: groceries or the hydro bill, medication or rent, gasoline or another household expense. Parents are worried about what kind of future their children will have when even a modest apartment can consume such a large portion of a paycheck.

At the same time, many residents look around their neighbourhoods and feel that the quality of life they once knew is changing. Homelessness, addiction, mental-health struggles, public disorder and concerns about crime cannot simply be ignored or explained away. The people suffering on our streets deserve compassion and meaningful help, but residents and business owners also deserve safe neighbourhoods, clean public spaces and a city where they feel comfortable walking downtown or operating a business. Small businesses are struggling too. They face rising costs, higher rents, taxes, insurance, wages, utilities and fewer dollars in the pockets of customers. These businesses are the backbone of our community, yet many owners feel as though they are being asked to carry more and more while receiving less in return. And through all of this, taxpayers continue to hear about new spending, new programs and new projects. There comes a point when government at every level must understand that taxpayers are not an endless source of money. Before asking residents for another dollar, every level of government should be asking a much more important question: Are we spending the money we already collect wisely?

Oshawa residents deserve accountability. They deserve responsible taxation. They deserve roads and infrastructure that are properly maintained, emergency services that can respond when needed, neighbourhoods where families feel safe, opportunities for young people, support for seniors and real solutions for those experiencing homelessness and addiction. Most importantly, residents deserve to feel that someone is listening. There are many wonderful things about Oshawa. We have strong neighbourhoods, proud families, tremendous history and people who genuinely care about this community. That is exactly why so many residents are frustrated. They know what Oshawa has been, and they know what Oshawa could be. People are not asking for luxury. They are asking for affordability. They are asking for safety. They are asking for accountability. They are asking for the opportunity to work hard, raise a family, retire with dignity and enjoy the community they helped build. That should not be too much to ask. Oshawa belongs to its people. It is time their struggles were heard, their concerns were respected and their interests were placed first.—

Ward 1 Oshawa Resident. Coleen Harris.

Dear Editor:

I have to admit that I am confused by the number of candidates running for municipal office in Ajax. Every election we hear the same message: it is time for change. Candidates tell us that the incumbents have failed, that taxes are too high, that services are not good enough, and that they can do better. But I have a serious concern. What happens if we get rid of experienced incumbents only to replace them with people who give us even worse representation? Change for the sake of change is not always progress. As voters, we need to look beyond campaign signs, slogans, social media posts and promises. We need to ask serious questions about the people who want to represent us. Do they understand how municipal government actually works?

Do they understand budgets, taxation, infrastructure, planning, public safety and the responsibilities that come with spending taxpayers' money? Are they running because they truly want to serve the community, or because they simply want the title? There are certainly reasons to criticize some incumbents. No elected official should believe they are entitled to remain in office forever. If they have stopped listening to residents, wasted taxpayer money, failed to provide leadership or forgotten who elected them, voters have every right to replace them. But we should also be careful not to assume that every new candidate will automatically be better. Experience matters. Knowledge matters. Judgment matters. Most importantly, integrity matters. Municipal government affects our lives every single day. Our property taxes, roads, parks, neighbourhood development, local services and the future direction of Ajax are all influenced by the people we elect. That is why this election should not become a popularity contest. Before we vote someone out, we should know exactly who we are voting in.

Candidates should tell us clearly what they stand for, what they would change, how they would pay for their promises and what experience qualifies them to make important decisions on behalf of the people of Ajax. I want better representation, just like many other residents. But I do not want to trade representation that may be imperfect for representation that could be far worse. Ajax voters should demand more than promises. We should demand competence, accountability, experience and a genuine commitment to serving the public. This election, we need to choose carefully. Sometimes change is necessary. But the wrong change can cost taxpayers and our community for years. —

A Concerned Ajax Resident. Howie Charles

Dear Editor:

This is not Halloween. I am not opening the door to these so called politicians. The other day some candidate knocked on my door. I opened and there stood someone with a flyer in hand trying to persuade my vote. I asked him about taxes. He did not know the answer only empty promises... sadly I learned that this was one of the incumbents. Thank you but no thank you. I am saddened to think that these are the people that represent us. No wonder our city is the way it is.

A Concerned Pickering Resident. Carla Stein

SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

 newspaper@ocentral.com

or

mail to 136 Simcoe St. North Suite 4 Oshawa



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★ VOTE OCTOBER 26