

OPINION
& EDITORIALS



The CENTRAL NEWSPAPER

Founder & Publisher: Joe Ingino

136 Simcoe St. N., Unit 4. Oshawa ON L1G 4S7

Tel: 905-432-2657

Email: newspaper@ocentral.com

Well Written, Well Read - Time Tested And Proven - #1 Newspaper Across Durham Region - Supporting Local Businesses

We can’t afford the Trudeau-Carney Liberals anymore...

There are many aspects of our nation’s finances that are quite simply beyond dispute. The 2025 budget now being sold to Canadians unquestionably places today’s Liberal Party spending onto tomorrow’s taxpayers as it doubling deficits, drives prices higher, and leaves families stuck with unaffordable bills for groceries and housing. The opposition Conservatives have labelled this as a costly “credit-card budget” which maxes out our nation’s finances.

The more the Trudeau-Carney Liberals spend, the more things cost for taxpayers and their families. It almost seems surreal to look back and recall our Prime Minister actually promising to spend less, deliver a deal with the Americans by July, and spark investments in homebuilding. Instead, the deficit has doubled, there is still no deal with the United States, and the government’s own housing agency now projects a decline in homebuilding.

So, the results after a decade of reckless Liberal policies are in. Canada has the very first generation in history to be giving up on home ownership, the highest housing costs in the G7, and food bank use that has more than doubled to almost 2.2 million monthly visits. As the Trudeau-Carney Liberals remain fixated on running massive deficits, we all pay the price - and hidden taxes continue to pile on. Carbon taxes on fertilizer and fuel are resulting in higher grocery bills as Canadians feel the pinch every week at the checkout counter.

On housing, the situation is beyond critical, as the cost of a new home has increased exponentially due to taxes, fees, delays and even government consultants. Instead of tackling these head-on, the budget goes in the opposite direction and completely backs away from promises made during the last election to cut development charges in half. Mark Carney’s budget is his most expensive broken promise, because new spending far outstrips any claimed savings, with roughly a third of a trillion dollars in new debt over five years. We don’t have to live like this. The federal government has the power to start making life affordable again by ending the massive deficits that drive inflation, cutting bloated taxes, and unleashing our natural resources that will make Canada one of the richest countries on earth. Too bad that hasn’t happened.

Our veterans must be given the respect they earned...

Nova Scotia’s Blake Richards, the Shadow Minister for Veterans Affairs in Ottawa, released a statement on what many have identified as the government’s disrespect shown to veterans on Remembrance Day. It is a statement worth sharing... “Yesterday, Canadians solemnly paused to remember those who gave their lives for our nation. It was a chance to reflect on the contributions made by veterans – both in and out of uniform – who proudly served Canada on sea, land and air. “Yet just a week before Remembrance Day, the Liberals announced in their budget that Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) funding will be cut by \$4.23 billion over the next four years.

This is while the backlog of disability benefit applications rose to 11,000 in March, with less than half of the applications meeting the service standard. “While veterans were lining up at the National War Memorial to remember their fallen comrades, Carney’s Veteran Affairs Minister told CTV that ‘it’s not actually a cut ... and in fact, we’re actually investing in our veterans,’ and that ‘veterans are not losing access to benefits.’ “But once our nation’s heroes had departed from the ceremony, she revealed, after being pressed three times if veterans will be getting less money, that cuts ‘will depend on each individual circumstance.’ “We wish we could say this is a new problem. Sadly, after a decade of neglect and disrespect, we can hardly be surprised that the Liberals abandoned our veterans. “Earlier this year, the government was caught trying to limit the number of Remembrance Day wreaths provided for cenotaphs across Canada.

After Conservative pushback, they reversed the changes but only ‘for this year.’ “More recently, despite widespread outrage after Nova Scotia court staff were banned from wearing poppies, Carney’s Minister said she ‘respects’ the decision and refused to stand up for a core symbol of remembrance that has been with us for over a century. “Under the Liberals, VAC has also been found pushing assisted suicide on Canadian veterans – a despicable breach of the social contract. “Conservatives will not break faith with our veterans and service members.”

What about Oshawa’s automotive jobs?

Regrettably, the 2026 budget issued by the federal government has failed to offer the necessary support for workers employed in Oshawa’s auto industry, as no new supports were announced to counter the growing reality of tariffs. Jeff Gray, president of Unifor Local 222, which represents over 20,000 active and retired workers, including employees at Oshawa’s General Motors plant, recently told reporters, “We’ve heard a lot of promises from the federal government as far as supports for workers, and we really haven’t seen any substantial change come down the pipe.”

Oshawa’s auto sector had experienced a significant turnaround since GM’s 2018 announcement it would be winding down production here in the ‘Motor City’. After GM boosted production levels again in 2021, the workers’ union said the sector was finally seeing an uptick in investments. That, however, came to an “abrupt halt” with the election of U.S. President Donald Trump, whose 25 per cent tariff on Canadian-made vehicles has greatly impacted Ontario’s auto sector. Gray said the “immediate and deep impacts” tariffs are having on the auto sector are “unprecedented. “We’ve been through a financial crisis, and we’ve been through unfair trade agreements internationally, but we’ve never seen anything quite like tariffs.”

Oshawa now has the third highest unemployment rate among Canada’s 20 most populous metropolitan areas, and there is some solace to be taken in the government’s efforts to establish a ‘tariff remission framework’ designed to increase the share of Canadian-made vehicles in the domestic market.

Current production levels are nearly enough to support that goal – one that could include a “build Canadian, buy Canadian” policy. On the flipside, the current reality is that 95 per cent of the pickup trucks made here in Oshawa are still sent to the United States, which no doubt causes local workers to feel extremely vulnerable. As Gray himself told reporters, “If you’ve been around the auto sector in Oshawa for any period of time, you realize that just about anything and everything comes at us. “We’ve always managed to overcome all the obstacles we’ve faced.” Let us hope that continues.

Letters To The Editor:

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

Dear Editor:

Doug Ford and the Ontario PCs promised to fix the mess left behind by the Kathleen Wynne Liberals — especially in our schools.

But a recent study from the Fraser Institute has confirmed what parents already know: the PCs’ changes to Ontario’s Grades 1–12 curriculum maintain and even strengthen emphasis on diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI).

After all the PCs’ talk in 2018 about “respecting parents” and “focusing on fundamentals,” the study found that:

- Ontario’s curriculum continues to push a social agenda through “equity and inclusion” themes and “culturally responsive teaching.”
- The sexual education component of the Grade 7 and 8 Health & Physical Education curriculum covers not just anatomy and reproduction, but “gender identity,” “sexual orientation,” and inclusion of “diverse” family types and orientations.
- Social Studies and History lessons have become vehicles for activism and political messaging, not critical thinking. Students are encouraged to view the past and present primarily through lenses of oppression, privilege, and activism.
- The new math program still mixes lessons on racial equity and emotional awareness instead of sticking to core numeracy skills.

In other words — the Ford PCs didn’t change the direction of Ontario’s education system. They kept the Wynne Liberals’ curriculum almost entirely intact, with new layers of bureaucracy and buzzwords added for good measure.

The result? Ontario students continue to fall behind in literacy and math while classrooms focus more on ideology than education.

The Doug Ford PCs have failed blue voters for seven years and will continue to do so, since the Ontario PC Party is run top-down like a dictatorship. There is no room for dissent. No input from the members.

Annie Nolan

Dear Editor:

Please consider the following article for publication in your community section:

A Disgraceful Display: The UN Has No Place at Our Remembrance Day Ceremony

At this year’s Remembrance Day parade in Oshawa, I couldn’t help but notice a shocking and deeply disrespectful sight — a United Nations flag flown front and center, and a UN-marked military vehicle rolling through the procession.

I was born and raised in Oshawa. My grandfather fought for Canada in the Second World War, and other members of my family served in the First. They fought for a free and sovereign Canada — not for a future where unelected global bureaucrats and political institutions like the United Nations are elevated alongside our flag.

The UN is no longer simply the peacekeeping body of the past. Today it advances global frameworks that can override or sideline national decision-making. For example:

UNDRIP Controversy: Canada initially voted against the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) in 2007 because parts were considered “incompatible with Canada’s constitutional order.” (LawNow.org)

Shift to Full Support: In 2016, Canada removed its objections and endorsed UNDRIP, aligning with a global framework originally treated as aspirational due to sovereignty concerns.

Global Agenda vs. National Sovereignty: Experts note that the UN often promotes frameworks and policies that bypass elected governments, diluting national authority over domestic policy. (OpenCanada.org)

Remembrance Day is sacred. It exists to honour those who sacrificed their lives for Canada’s independence, democracy, and freedom — not to provide a platform for the symbolism of the United Nations, Britain, France, or any other global institution. The only acceptable symbols on this day are Canadian and American, reflecting the two nations that stood shoulder to shoulder in the world’s major conflicts, united in defence of liberty.

When the UN flag is raised beside ours on Remembrance Day, it sends a dangerous message: that Canada’s sacrifices now serve global interests, not our own. That is not remembrance. That is submission.

Those responsible for this display owe the veterans of Canada — and every family who has lost someone in service — an apology. Future ceremonies must remain Canadian in focus, Canadian in meaning, and Canadian in symbol — honouring those who fought for our flag, our freedom, and our country alone.

Our soldiers deserve better. Our veterans deserve better.

And Canada deserves leaders who will defend our sovereignty, not trade it away.

Ryan James Larche

Dear Editor:

I am writing to formally demand urgent and decisive action regarding repeated reports of animal abuse involving a dog named Shadow, currently residing at 1050 Simcoe Street South, Unit 42, Oshawa, Ontario, under the care of individuals Kyle and Andrew Lyman. It has come to my attention that multiple reports have been made regarding the mistreatment and abuse of Shadow, yet no effective intervention appears to have occurred to date. This lack of action is deeply troubling. Despite the absence of video footage, consistent reports from witnesses and concerned community members strongly indicate a pattern of abuse that warrants a thorough and immediate investigation. Excuses referencing the alleged behavioral issues of the individuals involved—regardless of any medical or developmental conditions—must not be used to justify or excuse acts of cruelty toward an animal. I have been made aware that multiple witnesses to the incident—where a dog was allegedly kicked and punched—have already provided statements to police. In my experience, written witness statements are typically sufficient grounds to lay charges in such matters. Therefore, I am concerned and confused as to why video evidence is now being demanded before any action is taken. It raises the question of whether this case is being treated with the seriousness it deserves. I recently saw a post by Durham Police on social media regarding a deceased dog found in a suitcase, and it is deeply troubling to think that meaningful action may only occur once a tragedy has already happened.

What has happened to proactive policing, especially when it comes to protecting those who have no voice and depend entirely on humans for their safety and well-being? I urge Durham Police to take immediate and decisive action in this matter before it escalates further. Under the Ontario Animal Welfare Services Act, 2019 (OAWSA), it is a legal and moral obligation of the authorities to investigate and act upon credible allegations of animal abuse. The OAWSA explicitly prohibits causing or permitting distress to an animal and includes provisions for intervention where there is reasonable cause to suspect that an animal is in distress or at risk. These legal protections apply regardless of who the perpetrator is. Furthermore, under Section 15 of the Act, inspectors and police officers are authorized and required to take necessary actions, including entering a premises, seizing animals in distress, and laying charges where appropriate. Failure to enforce these laws represents a failure of duty on the part of law enforcement and animal protection services. I respectfully, but firmly, urge the Durham Regional Police Service to:

- Reopen and fully investigate the reports of abuse involving Shadow the dog;
- Coordinate with Ontario Animal Welfare Services to conduct a welfare check and ensure the safety of the animal;
- Hold the responsible individuals accountable in accordance with OAWSA and the Criminal Code of Canada, Section 445.1, which further criminalizes willful animal cruelty. It is wholly unacceptable for a vulnerable animal to remain in a dangerous environment due to inaction or misinterpretation of the law. This is not merely a community concern—it is a legal and ethical failure that must be addressed immediately. Please confirm receipt of this email and inform me of the actions your department intends to take.

Respectfully, Harpreet Kaur