

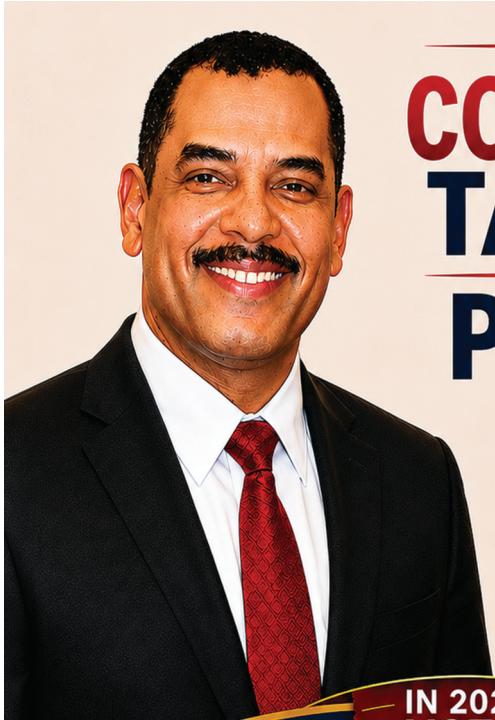
Daily Briefs:

Monday, September 7th, 2026
WHITBY — MAYOR CALLS FOR END TO “TOXIC” POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT
Political tensions in Whitby are emerging as an issue as candidates prepare for the October municipal election. Mayor Elizabeth Roy recently called for greater civility in municipal politics, saying respect must form the foundation of public service as the election campaign intensifies.
WHY IT MATTERS: Municipal elections should ultimately be about public policy and accountability. Whitby voters will be deciding who they trust to deal with taxation, spending, growth, housing, traffic and municipal services. How candidates potentially creating opportunities for Canadian producers.
OSHAWA — AUTO INDUSTRY FACES ANOTHER MAJOR TARIFF THREAT
The trade dispute is especially important to Oshawa because the United States has threatened substantially higher tariffs on Canadian automobiles beginning January 1. That uncertainty comes shortly after General Motors committed \$144 million to bring next-generation Heavy-Duty GMC Sierra production to Oshawa Assembly.
WHY IT MATTERS: Oshawa has regained considerable automotive manufacturing activity after years of uncertainty. A prolonged tariff battle could threaten investment, production costs and thousands of jobs connected directly and indirectly to the automotive sector.

Tuesday, September 8, 2026
OSHAWA — AUTO SECTOR FACES NEW TRADE UNCERTAINTY
Today's tariffs arrive shortly after General Motors committed \$144 million to bring next-generation Heavy-Duty GMC Sierra production to Oshawa Assembly. The larger Canada-U.S. dispute remains a significant risk because automotive manufacturing depends on parts and materials crossing the border repeatedly during production.
WHY IT MATTERS: GM's investment provides Oshawa with important production security, but an extended trade dispute could increase manufacturing costs and threaten investment throughout Ontario's automotive supply chain. Thousands of Durham jobs are directly or indirectly tied to automotive manufacturing.
DURHAM — NEW REGIONAL CHAIR EXPECTED TO BE APPOINTED BY PROVINCE AFTER ELECTION
A significant change is coming to the governance of Durham Region. Following the October 26 municipal election, Durham's Regional Council will be formed from locally elected representatives, but the Regional Chair and chief executive officer will subsequently be appointed by the Ontario government. The province has not yet indicated whether incumbent Regional Chair John Henry will remain or whether someone new will be appointed.
WHY IT MATTERS: The Regional Chair holds one of the most powerful municipal positions in Durham, overseeing a government responsible for major services including policing, transit, water, roads, social services and public health. How that position is filled — and who ultimately receives it — deserves close public attention.
BOWMANVILLE — MAJOR LIBERTY STREET CLOSURE BEGINS TOMORROW
Durham Region will close Liberty Street North between Longworth Avenue and Bons/Freeland Avenue beginning Wednesday, September 9. The closure is scheduled to continue through December 31. Work includes road reconstruction, installation of sewer and watermain infrastructure and construction of a new roundabout.
WHY IT MATTERS: This is a major closure lasting almost four months. Bowmanville residents, commuters and businesses should prepare alternate routes before tomorrow morning.
NEWCASTLE — ANOTHER LONG-TERM ROAD PROJECT STARTS NEXT WEEK
Durham Region is preparing daytime lane restrictions on North Street in Newcastle beginning September 15 and continuing through December 31. The work will include construction of a multi-use walkway and surface asphalt associated with new development.
WHY IT MATTERS: Clarington continues to experience significant residential growth. Infrastructure construction is increasingly accompanying that growth, creating both long-term improvements and short-term traffic disruption for existing residents.
PICKERING — RECREATION COMPLEX WORK BEGINS TODAY
The older Family Change Room at the Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex closes today through Saturday, September 12, while crews replace rooftop HVAC equipment. The main Universal Change Room remains available. Crane operations will also temporarily affect parking around the facility.
WHY IT MATTERS: Residents using one of Pickering's busiest recreation facilities should expect temporary access and parking changes throughout the week.

Wednesday, September 9, 2026
OSHAWA — AUTO INDUSTRY FACES GROWING CROSS-BORDER THREAT
The latest trade escalation comes shortly after General Motors committed \$144 million to bring next-generation Heavy-Duty GMC Sierra production to Oshawa Assembly. The automotive industry remains particularly vulnerable because vehicles and components routinely cross the Canada-U.S. border during production.
BOWMANVILLE — LIBERTY STREET NORTH CLOSURES TODAY
A major road closure begins today in Bowmanville. Liberty Street North between Longworth Avenue and Bons/Freeland Avenue is scheduled to remain closed through December 31. Durham Region says crews will reconstruct the road, install sewer and watermain infrastructure and construct a new roundabout.
WHITBY — NEW TRAFFIC-CALMING PROCESS TARGETS SPEEDING AND DANGEROUS DRIVING
Whitby introduced a new process Tuesday for residents requesting traffic-calming measures on local streets. Possible measures include speed humps, speed cushions, raised crosswalks, curb extensions and neighbourhood roundabouts. More than 900 people participated in the consultation that helped develop the policy. Residents identified speeding, traffic volume, dangerous driving, cut-through traffic and school zones as leading concerns.
AJAX — AFFORDABLE-HOUSING POLICY MOVES THROUGH MUNICIPAL PROCESS
Ajax held a statutory public meeting Tuesday concerning proposed Inclusionary Zoning policies around the Ajax GO station. The proposal would establish a framework allowing affordable-housing requirements within the Ajax GO Protected Major Transit Station Area. The proposed zoning provisions currently identify a zero-per-cent affordable-housing set-aside rate while establishing the regulatory framework for qualifying residential and mixed-use developments.
OSHAWA — COLBORNE STREET CLOSURE CONTINUES
Colborne Street West between Kaiser Crescent and Centre Street North remains closed to through traffic. The closure began Tuesday and is scheduled to continue through September 11 while crews complete a service connection.

Thursday, September 10, 2026
OSHAWA — FUNERAL HOME FIRE NOW CONSIDERED SUSPICIOUS
Durham Regional Police say the devastating fire that destroyed the McIntosh-Anderson-Kellam Funeral Home on King Street East in downtown Oshawa is now believed to have started under suspicious circumstances. The fire broke out shortly before 4 a.m. Monday. Oshawa firefighters found an active fire when they arrived and the building ultimately had to be demolished because of the extensive damage. No injuries were reported. Police are continuing to investigate the circumstances surrounding the blaze.
WHY IT MATTERS: The destruction of a long-established downtown business is significant on its own. Police now treating the fire as suspicious makes this an important public-safety investigation for Oshawa. The cause and circumstances remain under investigation.



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