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2014, 2018, 2022,
City Of Oshawa Mayoral Candidate
2025, Member of Provincial Parliament Candidate for The New Blue Party

JOE INGINO IS AN ACCOMPLISHED WRITER/AUTHOR OF OVER 800,000 Published Columns in Canada and The United States

"I live a dream in a nightmare world"

Always Remember That The Cosmic Blueprint Of Your Life Was Written In Code Across The Sky At The Moment You Were Born. Decode Your Life By Living It Without Regret or Sorrow. - ONE DAY AT A TIME -

Municipal Failure Supreme Last One Out, Turn Off The Lights

By Joe Ingino
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On April 16, 1971, real-estate agents Bob McDonald and Jim Youngren put the words, "Will the last person leaving SEATTLE -- Turn out the lights" on a billboard at S 167th Street and Pacific Highway S near Sea-Tac International Airport. The two realtors, who work for Henry Broderick, Inc., put up the billboard as a humorous response to pessimism generated by the national aerospace industry's nosedive, known locally as the Boeing Bust. A Sign of the Times

The recession came as The Boeing Company, the region's largest employer, went from a peak of 100,800 employees in 1967 to a low of 38,690 in April 1971. McDonald said their out-of-town clients "were amazed that Seattle wasn't a ghost town with weeds growing in the streets. Sadly the comparison to Oshawa. We also have weed growing on our streets in the form of cannabis shops.... Everything else is closing or has closed.

Have you been downtown Oshawa lately? Well, take a drive and see the similarities to the above... God forbid take a walk. Oshawa was once the jewel on the regions crown. We had power. We had standards. We had an exceptional quality of life. Ever since Nancy Diamond, took out the fountain at Memorial Park. Life has slowly deteriorated to a notch above a war zone. I have been warning the City of GM move to pull out. No one listened. Scared, city officials failed to stop GM from slowly taking jobs other places and leaving us with an environmental mess. Much like The Boeing model above. Oshawa has turned in to a zombie wonderland. Made up the homeless, drug addicts, drug dealers and some of the worlds ugliest prostitutes. I blame the Mayor for doing nothing but waste your tax dollars to the tune of 2 million dollars on a private para-military security company that gets him a personal bodyguard. Your Money. He likes to fill his mouth that Oshawa is resilient... The only resilient thing about him is his neglect for Oshawa and to work with people. The two downtown councillors. Complete disgrace. In the two terms they served 10yrs. Oshawa downtown has become a war zone. Yet, they push for a new downtown mini park. In my opinion. Rick Kerr and Derek Giberson should do the honorable thing and resign. Convenience stores are closing, restaurants... It appears that the only shops opening are vaping shops and cannabis. The mayor talks about supporting local small businesses. He does not.

But in their defense. Kerr, has no real business experience. Giberson a third rate wanna be musician never really had a solid job other than that of being elected. We can't expect more. But we can expect for them to resign... before the last one of us has to turn off the lights on Oshawa, due to municipal incompetence.



Electronic Communication Gadgets and Smartphones -- Posing Danger for the New Generation

by Maj (ret'd) CORNELIU. CHISU, CD, PMSC, FEC, CET, P. Eng.
Former Member of Parliament
Pickering-Scarborough East

The central news in the country currently surrounds the imminent election, a crucial election, because it will define the future of Canada. With all this election action swirling around us, it is still important to note how the explosion of devices dedicated to mass communications are influencing the way in which the next generation will be raised and influenced to behave.

The introduction of electronic communication devices, especially smartphones, and with it, ubiquitous social media usage, are clearly key factors in the rise in youth mental health issues seen across the world.

There is considerable evidence linking social media use to youth mental health issues. In response, Canada and other countries have developed some policies to deal with social media use among young people, but there are more practical options that Canadian policy-makers could take.

Youth mental health issues have been on the rise since the early 2010s, especially among girls, with significant increases in depression, anxiety, and self-harm.

In Canada, rates of depressive and anxiety disorders have climbed notably among those aged 15 to 24. This widespread pattern is not limited to Canada, but is apparent across the Anglosphere, which indicates that there is likely some global factor driving the decline in youth mental health.

These negative trends are driven in particular, by social media use. There is a lack of personal contact among youth in this age group, who rely more and more on illusory cyberspace meetings, presenting a false reality.

These days, time spent on social media often replaces in-person interaction, exposes users to damaging content, and leads some to interpret normal distress as symptoms of mental health. Recent studies suggest that one to two hours of daily social media use is associated with good mental health, but mental health deteriorates as use increases beyond that. The preponderance of the evidence indicates that social media is a major contributor to, and likely a leading cause of, declining mental health among young people.

Governments worldwide have started to regulate children's social media usage, often by tackling "online harm" with policies that try to moderate the content posted on these platforms.

However, these efforts, such as Canada's proposed Online Harms Act, which would impose strict punishments for "hate" offences and empower judges to restrict the movement of anyone who could commit an online hate crime in the future, often infringe on privacy and free expression.

Legislation itself will not be able to limit the damages if not accompanied by a healthy system of education, incumbent upon the various board of educations, teachers themselves, and society as a whole.

Given the implication of legislating, against the freedom of speech and undue censorship, Canada should find a way to effectively deal with the problem without infringing on these inalienable rights in a free and democratic system.

Specifically, Canada should do this through strengthening the educational system in which our youth are spending extended periods of time. It would be advisable to strengthen bans on cell-phone and social media use in schools, raise awareness of the downsides of social media, and reorient childhood around free play instead of focusing on screen time.

Like any complex social phenomenon, there are likely multiple significant causal factors at play. However, the introduction of smartphones, and with it, ubiquitous social media usage, are clearly key factors in the rise in youth mental health issues seen across the world.

To safeguard the mental health of its young, Canada should act now and pursue immediate policies that mitigate social media's harms as prudently as possible.

It is also important to involve parents in this process and much more cooperation and engagement is required from the various bodies of education. It is crucial to involve parents because they have the ultimate responsibility for the future of their children.

A symbiosis between the bodied of education, individual teachers and parents is essential in this process of limiting the effects of social media on the mental health of our growing young people. A common sense approach has to be established on this issue. Politicians can legislate to infinity, but life cannot be legislated, it just takes its course.

Reflecting upon all this, I do hope that the upcoming election will not create an additional factor, causing adult mental health issues.
Good luck and be sure to vote!

Days to drop off items for reuse, recycling and safe disposal

Durham Region is inviting residents to drop off items for reuse, recycling and safe disposal at Environment Days. According to the region, the events will run from 8 am to noon, rain or shine, at the following locations:

- Saturday, April 26** – Ajax Operations Centre, 800 Salem Road North, Ajax
- Saturday, August 16** – Clarington Operations Depot 42, 178 Darlington-Clarke Townline Road, Bowmanville
- Saturday, September 20** – Uxbridge Seniors Centre (parking lot), 75 Marietta Street, Uxbridge
- Saturday, October 18** – Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex (rear parking lot), 1867 Valley Farm Road, Pickering

Residents attending are also encouraged to bring non-perishable food items for donation to local food banks. Durham asks that any donated items be unopened, undamaged, and not expired. Donate items in good condition for reuse

- Items accepted:**
- Clothing and textiles in all conditions, please wash before donating
 - Shoes and accessories
 - Home decor, bedding and linens
 - Games, toys, puzzles and sporting goods
- Items not accepted:**
- Garbage, Household hazardous waste,
 - Electronics
 - Furniture
 - Cribs, high chairs, strollers and all other baby equipment
 - Renovation material



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