

# The Town of Ajax wants the community to remember veterans service all year round

They unveiled a new crosswalk Tuesday at Veterans' Point Garden, at the intersection of Harwood Avenue and Lake

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 322 helped design the new crosswalk and the town says the colours selected hold significant meaning.

The red and white striped background represents Canada's national colours while the outlines of the Ship (HMS Ajax), plane and helmet represent the veterans who served in the army, navv and air force.

"As we approach Remembrance Day, I am pleased that Ajax can honour our veterans with a new crosswalk," said Ajax Mayor Shaun Collier. "The artwork depicts the Town's own unique military history, including the HMS Ajax and the Battle of the River Plate. We will forever be grateful for the sacrifices that were made then, and continue to be made today, to protect our rights and freedoms as Canadians."

"On behalf of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 322, Ajax, this Veterans Crosswalk stands as a lasting tribute to those who served our nation," said Bruce Sharpe, President, Royal Canadian Legion Branch 322. "It reminds every citizen of their courage and sacrifice and reflects our community's commitment to honouring our veterans. Projects like this ensure their legacy continues for generations in our neighbourhood."

# Darker commuting hours affecting visibility on roadways

This time of year brings shorter days and darker commutes, resulting in reduced visibility on our roadways. Our collision data shows that the highest number of pedestrian and cyclistinvolved collisions take place between October and December. That's why we're reminding Durham Region residents to be extra cautious and practice road safety as darkness comes ear-

The following tips for roadway users will help improve safety for

### Drivers:

Pay special attention to crosswalks and sidewalks leading to intersections as you approach, even if you have a green light.

Reduce your speed. Ensure your full headlight system is turned on.

Double-check for pedestrians and cyclists when turning left or right.

# Pedestrians:

Always cross at an intersection where there is a traffic control device, such as a traffic control signal, stop sign or pedestrian crossover.

Be sure that drivers see you by making eye contact with motorists before attempting to cross a road.

Wear brightly-coloured and/or reflective clothing so that you are more visible during darker hours.

Do not wear headphones or use your phone or other devices when crossing the road.

Be careful and wait until traffic has come to a complete stop before you cross.

Obey all traffic laws and responsibilities as a road user.

Turn on headlamps and taillights at least 30 minutes before

Be visible by ensuring you have reflective gear and clothing. Be alert and do not wear headphones when riding.

### **Electric Bikes:**

Keep an eye on electric Bikes, Unicycles and mopeds. In many cases they wear all black with no real head or rear lights.

Being that they are electric you don't hear them coming or even see them. Extra caution should be used to avoid an accient at all times.

Remember to use extra caution. When it rains or snow falls. Assure you leave your home with plenty of time. Rushing never helped anyone get there any faster.

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Fire at former

Goodyear Lands Clarington Emergency and Fire Services (CEFS) continued monitoring the site at the former Goodyear Lands throughout the afternoon and evening of October 13. Crews determined that the fire began on the roof, which later collapsed into the building. As a safety precaution and to help ensure the fire was fully extinguished, excavators were brought in to remove a portion of damaged wall along the north side of the building.

On the afternoon of October 13, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) attended the scene to evaluate environmental conditions. During its assessment, two water samples were collected from the Bowmanville Creek and submitted for analysis. During their scene assessment, the MECP determined that airquality testing was not needed. MECP is continuing to work with the property owner. Due to extensive damage to the building, Clarington's Deputy Chief Building Official has issued an "Order to Remedy Unsafe" under the Ontario Building Code. This Order requires the landowner to demolish the building safely by April 30, 2026, in accordance with provincial regulations to protect the local environment and community.

The Municipality is urging residents to stay off the property as the building is structurally unstable and extremely dangerous. We are especially reminding teens and young adults not to enter the area or explore the site — it may look harmless from a distance, but hidden hazards like falling debris and unstable walls pose real risks.

## Ford's Labour Minister parties in Paris while Ontario bleeds jobs

QUEEN'S PARK — StatsCan report shows an alarming increase in unemployment. while the Minister of Labour is busy partying in Paris and enjoying rink-side Leafs tickets with insiders:

"Under Doug Ford's watch, hundreds of thousands of Ontarians are out of work," said Ontario NDP Shadow Minister for Finance Jessica Bell. "Just this past month, 20,500 more people became unemployed. Many are underemployed, and many are in precarious work. Doug Ford is a jobs disaster."

"The youth unemployment numbers are shocking," said Shadow Minister for Economic Development Catherine Fife. "These are recession numbers, clearly the Minister of Labour is too distracted by scandals of his own making. Ontario's youth deserve a leader dedicated to helping them reach their potential through education and employment opportunities.

"This needs to be a wake-up call for the Premier and the Minister of Labour," added Bell. "There is no good reason why Doug Ford is using the workforce training fund to hand out taxpayer dollars to his well-connected friends. Instead of telling young people to 'look harder,' the Premier needs to get his own house in order. If he continues to just wag his finger and do nothing, a whole generation of young people could be left behind."