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Harvest Fest's Mr. Stilts Juggles Just as Voters Will Do Soon



An expanded Harvest Fest was again a huge success, turning downtown Brooklin into a few blocks of fun and food. It was the perfect offset for the looming candidates forum and mayoral debate. See pages 2, 6, and 7.

Re-Elect
Rhonda Mulcahy
for
Regional Councillor
in
North Ward 1



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Less than half the picture: And in this ring...

**By Richard
Bercuson**



Of the many things Americans do right, except for the obvious, creating quality entertainment ranks near the top.

For eight years, the network Showtime produced a riveting documentary series called "The Circus: Inside the Greatest Political Show on Earth." It featured journalists and former election advisors chronicling the U.S. presidential elections from 2015 to 2023.

While this year's municipal election does not stoop to levels of inanity that show sometimes revelled in, there were some discomforting moments. To wit at the Whitby Chamber of

Commerce's (CoC) Sept. 24 Meet the Candidates forum and mayoral debate at the Abilities Centre. It began innocently enough at 6 pm with voters jamming the lobby to put faces to names. The blight of election signage around town said nothing about candidates other than their taste in colours and perception of what size sign should go where to have the most impact. For some, it was go big or go home.

Say what you will about election signs, they at least remind us there are people who want to get elected, if nothing else. Except, there is nothing else till we look behind the signs. Which was the forum's point. What exactly is behind the signs?

It was gratifying to see how many candidates had chocolate goodies on their tables. Two

informed me it was because of my whiney complaint in the last issue. As in, they read this paper. My vote isn't so easily bought though.

Then the lobby emptied for the mayoral debate upstairs, which one didn't merely attend; one experienced it. It was standing room only with an estimated 300 attending. Here's where I sensed recollections of the American circus. CoC Ringmaster Ken Regular, minus top hat and whip which I suppose he didn't figure he'd need, laid out the rules for candidates Chris Leahy, Harshini Rajmohan and Elizabeth Roy to follow.

His challenge controlling this tête-à-tête-à-tête was evident before it began. Leahy wore a label button large enough to be seen from Oshawa displaying Mayor Roy's purported salary of \$318,666 and a redline through it. Not a classy boutonniere, nor a photo of his wife and kids, nor even an imploring Go Leafs Go, all of which would have been passable (says the Habs fan). Instead he verified what he's about.

No sooner had the Ringmaster requested candidates to stay clear of personal attacks than Leahy opened with that very

thing in his first sentence. And off it went, replete with audience snapbacks, smatterings of applause for emotionally loaded words or inaccuracies, and dollops of rhetorical blather. To be generous, it was a messy three-ring shambles.

If there was a winner, it was young (age 25) Harshini Rajmohan who mustered the courage to answer what she could, which wasn't much as she admitted. Seated in the middle ring meant evading darts from the two principals. She did not wear a lapel button.

Our mayoral circus travels next to the Central Library on Oct. 13 for a 7 pm performance. No word yet on popcorn.

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Election Day - October 26
Advanced Vote - October 22-25

Dear Neighbours,

I grew up in Brooklin, as did five generations before me. Working in and for my community has become a decades-long commitment, and I am proud that my history of community involvement includes working with *Group 74* and the *Downtown Brooklin Business Association* to bring *Harvest Festival* and *Christmas in the Village* to life. I still bring Santa to Grass Park every year to visit with the kids because I believe traditions like these are something our community values. These events are part of what makes Brooklin special - a community where people come together.

I started *The Brooklin Town Crier* 26 years ago to help unite and inform our growing community. I will always value the opportunity to showcase the accomplishments of our residents, both past and present.

Being your elected representative for the past 10 years has been an honour



and a privilege, and I will never take that responsibility for granted. I have entered the race again because I believe there is still work to be done where I can be useful, and I hope you will entrust me with your support on October 26th.

I have been at the doors listening. Affordability, traffic concerns (from our local roads to downtown) community safety, and the next steps for our hospital are among the issues I hear about most often.

Following the election, I want to work with the local Ward Councillor to create a Ward One Strategic Plan. This term, the Town managed 62 action items from the Town-wide Strategic Plan. As I will be

representing one ward this time around, I want to focus closely on what is important here at home. And, I want the community to help determine those priorities.

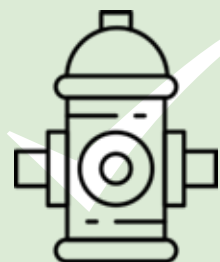
Together, we can accomplish some great things.

I am a strong advocate, as my record shows - not just locally, but beyond. My role with the *Association of Municipalities of Ontario* as Durham Region's representative regularly puts me in the same room as ministers who can help us achieve our goals. I have worked hard over the years to earn respect here at home and across the province.

Let me use that experience and those relationships to help leverage what we need. Let's make a plan. Let's execute it together.

I humbly ask for your support so that, in turn, I can continue to give you mine.

- Rhonda



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Re-Elect

RHONDA

MULCAHY

REGIONAL COUNCILLOR

NORTH WARD 1

2025 Newsmaker of the Year

“... it was Whitby Reg. Coun. Rhonda Mulcahy who pushed at every opportunity through repeated motions at Durham regional council, Whitby town council, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and elsewhere, to get the 407 East tolls removed.”

- Tim Kelly, Whitby This Week





Authorized by the Rhonda Mulcahy Campaign

RhondaMulcahy.com

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Elect ONE Regional Councillor in EACH ward!

Bring Me Home!

Curbside battery collection in the week of October 5

The Region of Durham is asking residents to participate in our annual fall curbside battery collection by placing used household batteries in a clear, sealable plastic bag and setting the bag on top of their closed green bin during the week of October 5.

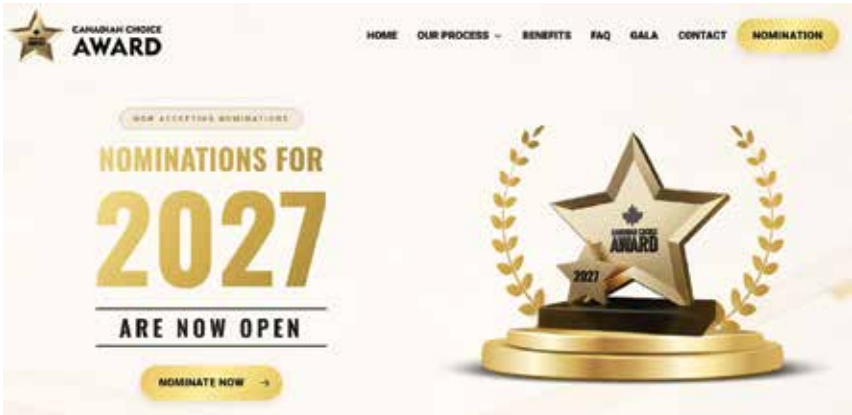
Fall battery collection occurs from October 5 to 9 on Green Bin collection days.

Batteries are not garbage – up to 92 per cent of battery components are recyclable and recoverable. By taking part in the battery collection program,

you can help prevent mercury, cadmium and other heavy metals from entering the environment. Since the first curbside battery collection in November 2012, Durham Region residents have diverted more than 544 tonnes (1,199,623 pounds) of household batteries from the waste stream.

If you miss your collection date, household batteries can be dropped off at one of the Region’s Waste Management Facilities year-round, free of charge. For a list of locations, visit **durham.ca/WMF**. Or for your nearest retail drop-off location, visit **RecycleYourBatteries.ca**.

Local TKD Program Nominated for Award



CFTP Brooklin Taekwondo is proud to announce that it has been nominated by the Canadian Choice Awards for best positive impact on a community. You can help the school secure this award by casting your vote at:

<https://canadianchoiceaward.ca/nominations/?shareurl=LluVjqY1sNIIAzBY3fMe>
(Note that this link will take you directly to the page to nominate CFTP Brooklin)

What You Need To Know This Week In Whitby



Get Vote-Ready for Whitby’s 2026 Municipal Election

Get ready to cast your ballot at any open voting location from October 22 to 26. Check that you’re on the Voters’ List and watch for your Voter Notification Card in the mail. Each card includes your ward, school support, and qualifying address, along with important information about voting dates and locations. Bring your card with you to help speed up the voting process. Learn more at whitby.ca/VOTE

Thanksgiving In Whitby

Gather, give thanks and enjoy the long weekend, Whitby. Town Hall and Garden Street Branch in-person and phone services will close at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, October 9 and reopen at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 13. All Town facilities will be closed on Monday, October 12. Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving!



Keep Playing Basketball This Winter

Bring your game indoors with Whitby’s new Fall and Winter Indoor Basketball League. Compete with your community, stay active, and have fun! Scan the QR code to register today. Learn more, visit whitby.ca/SportsLeagues



Celebrating Youth Awards – Nominate a Young Leader

Do you know a young person making a difference in Whitby? Help celebrate their leadership and contributions by nominating them for a 2026 Celebrating Youth Award. Submit your nomination by October 23 at whitby.ca/YouthEvents

Human Rights Tribunal Dismisses Applications

On September 28, 2026, the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario dismissed applications brought by Christopher Leahy and Stephen Yamada against the Corporation of the Town of Whitby, Principles Integrity, Elizabeth Roy, Rhonda Mulcahy, and Niki Lundquist.

In its decision, the Tribunal concluded that the applications “have no reasonable prospect of success” because “the events and allegations set out in the Applications did not occur within any of the social areas dealt with by the Code.” The Tribunal therefore dismissed both applications.

Prior to the Tribunal’s decision, legal counsel for the respondents urged the applicants to drop their applications noting that previous independent investigations had found no evidence of discrimination and that established Human Rights Tribunal jurisprudence indicated the applications fell outside the Tribunal’s jurisdiction.

To date, the Town has incurred approximately \$53,682 in external legal costs responding to these applications. Final costs will be determined once all related administrative and legal matters have been concluded.

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Professional audit assistance is available when Canada Revenue Agency comes calling. Workplace Safety and Insurance Board and

any other agency that might be required to perform audits on client documentation - Turner Moore knows what to do. Meet with the auditors on behalf of clients, file appeals or notice of objections and then follow through on the process to ensure that your issues have been dealt with. If you have received a letter from Canada Revenue Agency, do not ignore it as, in most cases, it can be resolved very easily.

Also available through Alan Hogan's team is a broad network of Tax and Accounting specialists to work on complicated tax issues. As well, a network of other professionals for referrals such as Financial Planners, Lawyers, Real Estate Agents, Banks, Mortgage Brokers, etc.

Alan Hogan has personally dedicated time to various charitable organizations over the years including; 100 Men of Oshawa, 100 Men of Whitby, local soccer and hockey and was a Director of Public Practice for the Durham CGA chapter

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Municipal Election 2026 - Meet the Ward 1 Regional Councillor Candidates

As in every election, the BTC is providing candidates with free space to publish their ideas. For this issue, we emailed all four Ward 1 Regional Councillor candidates: Tracy Brown, Ikramah Mohhy-Ud-Din, Rhonda Mulcahy, and Christine Thatcher. Please note that Ikramah Mohhy-Ud-Din did not

reply.

They were provided four questions to answer in 500 words or less.

1 - With regional councillors running only in their wards, how will you work with the ward councillor in providing the north

ward what it needs?

2 - What will be the challenges in Whitby council as a representative of just this ward?

3 - Regional Council involves making difficult choices when there may not be enough money, staff, or political agreement to do everything people want. How would you decide what

gets done first?

4 - Four years from now, what would you want residents to say you actually accomplished—and why should voters believe you are the person who can deliver it?

Turn to page 7 for their responses and contact information:



BROOKLIN'S HISTORY

By Jennifer Hudgins

Brooklin's First Lady

While the Canadian government has never had a President, that has not stopped Brooklin from having a First Lady.

Since 1852, members of the Whitby Township Council were only men. But on December 12, 1955, for the first time in our history, ratepayers elected the first woman to a seat on Council. Brooklin resident Myrtle (Myrt) Lovelock defeated her opponent, fellow Brooklinite Sydney Lockyer, by 53 votes, to give her an entrance into a male-dominated legislative body where she served as councillor until 1959. Along with her other duties, Myrt chaired the Park Board which was responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of all public parks in the Township, including the Brooklin Memorial arena.

The business woman

Myrt, a business woman, wife and mother of three sons, was a charismatic and popular figure in the community. In 1955, when General Motors went on strike and her husband Ed was out of work, to help support the



family, Brooklin residents bought chicken dinners at the Hole in the Wall Restaurant she managed. The restaurant was about the size of today's takeout. It was situated on the corner of Baldwin and Way Streets, in the corner of a garage she rented from Brooklin businessman Walter Labanovich. Determined not to lose the business when he raised the rent, she moved her restaurant to the family's home on George Street.

The second time Myrt held the title of first lady was in 1962 when she ran for the position of Deputy-Reeve on the Whitby Township Council. She defeated the sitting Deputy-Reeve, John Goodwin, by nearly 100 votes to take the straight two-way battle in the township's election. She garnered 609

votes to Goodwin's 520.

Husband's support

Myrt's husband Ed was a strong supporter of her political aspirations, but after she completed her year as Deputy-Reeve, she gave up politics. Together they bought a parcel of land at 7725 Baldwin Street north, and built a restaurant. They used their combined initials to name it the ELM, though to locals it was always known as Myrt's. The family left the house on George Street to move into living quarters in the lower level of the building and it was here that Myrt entertained a variety of well known people.

An employee of Myrt's said that radio host Joel Aldren, the first president of CFTO-TV and part owner of CHFI-FM, made a point of stopping by on his way home

from Toronto to Port Perry. Myrt loved a good debate and Clayton Ruby, one of Canada's leading lawyers and a prominent activist who specialized in constitutional and civil rights, often dropped in on the way to his cottage, to engage her in political chat.

Myrtle Irene (nee Taylor) Lovelock was born on January 31, 1917, and died on September 24, 1990. Her husband Edward Lovelock, was born on July 5, 1912, and died on December 22, 1977. The couple are resting in the St. Paul's Anglican Cemetery in Columbus, Ontario.

Following the publication of the article about Myrt Lovelock, a recommendation was made to the Town of Whitby that a Brooklin street be named in her honour. The recommendation was accepted. Today, a new street being built near Columbus Road and Ashburn Road will carry her name: Lovelock Crescent.

(Editor's Note: This article is reprinted from March, 2022, and has been updated)



WHITBY NORTH WARD 1 LOCAL COUNCILLOR CANDIDATES



Tracy BROWN

receive clear, consistent information. Whether the matter involves local services such as roads and parks, or regional responsibilities such as transit, policing and affordable housing, or cooperation across governments, my focus will be on practical solutions. North Ward 1 deserves representatives who communicate clearly, collaborate effectively and deliver results.

2. The greatest challenge will be advocating strongly for North Ward 1 while helping to make decisions that benefit Whitby/Brooklin and Durham as a whole. Rapid growth is placing pressure on infrastructure, traffic, transit, housing, recreation

1. Residents expect their elected representatives to work together. I would build a strong, respectful partnership with the North Ward 1 Local Councillor through regular meetings, joint community consultations and coordinated advocacy. We would identify shared priorities, clarify government responsibilities and ensure residents

and essential services. At times, North Ward's 1 needs may compete with priorities elsewhere. I will present clear evidence, build support among colleagues, and show how timely investment in our growing community benefits the entire municipality. I will remain closely connected to residents, so their lived experiences inform every decision I make.

3. I would use a transparent and disciplined process. Public safety, legislated responsibilities and essential services must come first. I would then assess proposals based on urgency, community impact, equity, readiness, long-term value and the cost of delaying action. I will prioritize initiatives that address the greatest needs, deliver measurable results and use public funds responsibly. I would also pursue partnerships and additional funding sources wherever possible. I will explain difficult choices openly, and residents deserve to understand both what was decided and why.

4. Four years from now, residents should be able to point to real results: a stronger voice for North Ward 1, better managed growth, more responsive services and meaningful progress on transportation, infrastructure and community safety. They should know their Regional Councillor was present, accessible and accountable and that I delivered for every generation. Voters do not have to take my leadership on

faith. I have demonstrated the discipline, sound judgment and commitment this role demands. While maintaining a full-time career and keeping my family at the centre of my life, I have served for four years as an elected Durham District School Board Trustee for Whitby and have twice earned my colleagues' confidence to serve as Chair of the Board.

I know how to manage competing priorities, lead through complex challenges, build consensus and make responsible decisions under pressure. My family keeps me grounded and reinforces why this work matters. I want North Ward 1 to be a community where families of every kind and residents at every stage of life can thrive.

I have been trusted to help lead the next generation. - Now, I am ready to represent and deliver for every generation.

Tracy Brown- Candidate for Whitby North Ward 1 Regional Councillor

- Website: vote4tracybrown.com
- Email: tracybrownone@gmail.com
- Phone: +1 647-241-8428
- Instagram: [@tracybrown4whitby](https://www.instagram.com/tracybrown4whitby)
- Facebook: [Tracy Brown for Whitby North Ward 1 Regional Councillor](https://www.facebook.com/TracyBrownforWhitbyNorthWard1RegionalCouncillor)



Rhonda MULCAHY

councillors can pool council expenses for regular ward meetings and communication. The Brooklin Town Crier has always offered space to the Ward Councillor upon their wish to participate. Moving forward I now have the same opportunity as a dedicated ward representative. I will ensure the community is aware of what is happening in the chambers along Rossland Road and the local councillor is welcome to collaborate to share that responsibility in the paper and beyond with a combined newsletter.

1. I am who motioned to elect our Regional Councillor by ward this election. This offers you less confusion of who you are to contact. Being dedicated to one Ward, I will address more local issues in tandem with your local Councillor offering collaborative solutions in the community. This presents new opportunities for communication from the Region and the Town to you. Two

2. The challenge will be to work closely with the other three wards to be reasonable in our asks of each other. I believe this is a good thing as it will curb spending as you no longer will have 6 of 9 councillors (majority of council) competing for support in future elections. (This has happened too often). Reasonable decisions will be made through good relationships and sensible spending.

3. Public safety first:

- water
- sewer
- paramedics
- health
- police

Priority items must serve ALL communities - not singularly for one community over others. Amalgamated governments are meant to share costs. We must as Regional Council determine the priorities to protect cores services for all of us across the Region. We are currently doing that review. Having said that, my record already shows I have voted against big tax increases at the Region and I am very aware that there needs to be serious changes. We have some hard decisions ahead. The provincial government hasn't addressed the financial framework imbalance and the \$6B gap annually that the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) have identified across the

province. We are treated unfairly comparably with other provinces in what unsustainably falls on our property taxes. As the Durham representative on the AMO Board I will continue that advocacy for all of us in Ontario.

4. This term:

- Remove trucks out of our downtown
- Create a Ward strategic plan
- Form a working downtown business group to protect our 'heart' in the community
- Achieve next steps for the hospital
- Be known as accessible, open and respectful

Why should you believe me? I'm proven - especially for my advocacy with the MTO regarding the downtown's future. I am the Whitby This Week (Sorry BTC) "Newsmaker of the Year, 2025" for the removal of the 407 tolls. Our current 62 item Whitby Strategic Plan is near complete from this term. I know and support our local business owners already and I believe being back in my hometown ward we can do some great things together. Are you with me?

Rhonda@RhondaMulcahy.com • 905-213-7403
Facebook: [Rhonda Mulcahy Regional Councillor - Whitby North Ward 1](https://www.facebook.com/RhondaMulcahyRegionalCouncillorWhitbyNorthWard1)
Instagram: [@RhondaMulcahy1](https://www.instagram.com/RhondaMulcahy1)



Christine THATCHER

My priorities include protecting taxpayers, investing in essential services and infrastructure, improving roads and traffic safety, protecting Brooklin's quality of life, and ensuring our community gets the hospital and other services it needs. I will build relationships with Town Council, Regional staff and our community organizations so that North Ward's priorities don't fall through the cracks

1. The North Ward needs representatives who understand that residents don't care which level of government is responsible—they simply want problems solved. I will work closely with the Town Councillor for North Ward as a team, maintaining regular communication and presenting a united voice on issues affecting our community.

2. The biggest challenge will be balancing North Ward's needs with the broader interests of Whitby and Durham Region. North Ward has experienced significant growth, and that means pressure on roads, traffic, infrastructure, recreation, libraries and other services.

I will be a strong advocate for North Ward, but Regional Council requires councillors to think beyond their own boundaries. Good regional government means making decisions that strengthen Whitby as a whole while ensuring that growth pays its fair share and existing residents are not forgotten.

3. Core services, public safety, infrastructure and responsible growth must come first. I would scrutinize spending, look for efficiencies and insist on accountability before asking taxpayers for more money.

That is why I oppose a 10% Regional tax increase. Taxpayers deserve to know that every reasonable effort has been made to control spending before taxes are increased.

4. I want residents to say: Christine Thatcher stood up for North Ward, protected our quality of life and made sure Whitby received its fair share.

I want to see progress on the hospital, better infrastructure and traffic management, protection of important community institutions such as the Brooklin Library, and responsible management of growth. I also want residents to know that their Regional representative respected their tax dollars. Voters can look at my record rather than simply take my word for it. I have served Whitby families as a DDSB trustee since 2018 and have served as both Vice-Chair and Chair of the Board. That experience taught me how to manage a large public budget, work with people who don't always agree, listen to communities and turn priorities into action.

I will bring that same approach to Regional Council: listen, advocate, negotiate and deliver.

Christthatcher@rogers.com
905 655 4370

JAY WHITE

WHITBY TOWN COUNCIL

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EXPERIENCED
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for a stronger
BROOKLIN

Hi Neighbours! My name is **Jay White**, and I am running for the position of **North Ward Town Councillor**. Brooklin and the surrounding communities are special places to call home. For the past 11+ weeks, I have been out meeting with residents and hearing about what they value most, along with the challenges they are facing. Many of the discussions we have surround the topics of **community safety**, **cost of living** and the current **growth** we are experiencing. But one of the questions I often get asked is **“Why are you running?”**

I am running because I believe effective local representation requires **relevant professional experience**, the **ability to listen**, **make informed decisions**, **communicate clearly**, **work collaboratively** and remain **accessible** to residents through both opportunities and challenges. If elected, I will work to ensure we stay connected through a variety of communication channels, including this very newspaper! Through open dialogue, respectful discussion and meaningful engagement, we can work toward a stronger, more connected North Ward for ALL residents.



My commitment to both family and my community is what drives me to get involved, contribute meaningfully and help shape a community that future generations will be proud to call home.



My 20+ years of experience in business, construction and project management have equipped me with the leadership, financial oversight and collaborative problem solving skills to bring a practical, results-focused approach to council.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE. REAL WORLD RESULTS



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Successful track record delivering initiatives on time and on budget



A NEW APPROACH TO REPRESENTATION

 Accessible & Responsive

 Forward-thinking and analytical

 Solutions-focused approach

 Meaningful community engagement

 Collaborative and Respectful

 Clear, concise communication

WHAT THE COMMUNITY IS SAYING ABOUT JAY

“I encourage you to have a conversation with him. I emailed some questions to him afterwards and he responded within an hour with his detailed take. I was very impressed... He has my vote and I hope He has yours too!”

Cheryl
North Ward Resident

“ Jay takes the time to listen and understand people’s needs and lived experiences in order to find practical ways to help. He has built strong relationships and gained valuable community experience giving him a solid understanding of how our community works and challenges some residents face.”

Silva
North Ward Resident & Client

I have known Jay for many years, both personally and professionally. What has stood out is how seriously He takes the issues that affect people... In my opinion, Jay is exactly the type of representative North Whitby needs now!”

Jason
North Ward Resident & Former Colleague

“He was an intense listener to our specific needs, making recommendations where necessary. Perhaps though, his greatest attribute was his persistent follow up.”

Andy & Mary Lou
North Ward Residents & Clients

A Fresh Perspective for **REAL** progress!

This campaign has been built on personal commitment, funding and with the encouragement of local residents. If elected, I intend to bring that same dedication to council, along with a fresh perspective and a commitment to raising the standard of accountability in local government.

Our community deserves representation that follows through and delivers results!
To those who have supported this campaign, thank you! To those I have yet to meet, I hope to see you soon!

JAY



VOTE

2026



VOTE IN ADVANCE POLLS, BETWEEN OCTOBER 22ND - 25TH. 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM

BROOKLIN COMMUNITY CENTER. 8 VIPOND ROAD, BROOKLIN.

ELECTION DAY IS MONDAY, OCTOBER 26TH 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM. CAST YOUR BALLOT AT:

BROOKLIN COMMUNITY CENTER - 8 VIPOND RD.

BLAIR RIDGE P.S - 100 BLACKFRIAR AVE.

HEBRON CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH - 4240 ANDERSON RD.

ROBERT MUNSCH P.S - 20 NORISTA ST.

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