

Durham Region Election Candidates

Friday, August 3, 2018

Brooklin Town Crier

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Meet the Trustee Candidates for the 2018 Municipal Election

Durham Catholic District School Board (Select 1 or 2 on your ballot - 2 will be elected)



Teresa Bugelli
124 Ribblesdale Drive,
Whitby
Home: 289.939.8377
teresabugelli@trentu.ca
Social Media Hyperlink:
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/teresa-bugelli-b-a-b067aa68/>

A lifelong resident of Whitby, Teresa Bugelli attended St. John the Evangelist Catholic School. Her three children are former students of St Marguerite D'Youville Catholic School where Teresa was an active member on the Catholic School Council advocating for positive changes and promoting community events. With her children graduated, she would like to dedicate her energy and share her extensive experience towards building and maintaining strong rela-

tionships among the DCDSB's students, parents, teachers and leaders.

She's a Mental Health Counselor within the Durham Region & GTA. She specializes in community engagement knowing that a sense of belonging is paramount to one's self-consciousness towards living a meaningful existence. Building rapport has been an achieved skill which adds to her experience in mediation and conflict resolution, valuable assets when expressing ideas and suggestions about important board decisions.

Teresa follows the mantra of Mother Teresa, has a divine honour towards her life's lessons and is inspired daily by the incredible impact she made upon the Catholic faith. Honesty and integrity are traits upheld with great respect. With a high regard towards philanthropy, she's been

a campaign coordinator for different charities including Raising the Roof (alleviating homelessness) and Autism Speaks Canada that hosts an annual November walk at the Abilities Centre.

Teresa is dedicated to education and developing curricula relevant to our children as they encounter diverse socialization structures. Two key components are counselling and accessing available resources which need expansion.

Being able to openly communicate without the fear of stigmatization or judgment creates comfort. Sharing this ideology is an important trait to Catholic ideals. She will always be available as an attentive and approachable advocate. Devotion and dedication define her path towards being a positive community leader as a DCDSB Trustee.



Tricia Chapman
Home: 905.430.2378
reelecttricia@gmail.com

During the past four years as a Catholic school board trustee for the Town of Whitby, I supported and enhanced the student's voice and leadership within our board and I have enthusiastically fostered relationships with clergy, provincial and federal members of parliament in order to solidify the importance of our education system.

I am an avid supporter of parents' involvement but I recognize that not all parents are able to volunteer in the classroom. Therefore, it is important that our board continue to provide a variety of ways for parents to get involved. I will continue to support and collaborate with our board's Parent Involvement Committee as they pursue a variety of mediums to reach out to our parents. As I reflect on the past four years, I realize that I thoroughly enjoy being a resource to the community and found myself always available to the public. I believe that it is important for a trustee to be present in public consultations and public information sessions in addition to our board meetings. I have proven to the public that I will be present at public consultations or information sessions to be more equipped to debate issues fully and make edu-

cated, responsible decisions at the board table.

As the trustee representative for the Student Senate over the past four years I have promoted student voice in the creation and discussion of board motions, funding and policy matters. I believe that all students are entitled to the equal and ample opportunities for learning and development. I am also an advocate for arts and technology accessibility for all students in the board.

I will continue to investigate and apply due diligence prior to deliberating board motions that involve our Whitby schools. I am committed to supporting programs that nurture creativity, inclusion and promote student achievement.



John Rinella
14 Inkpen Lane, Whitby
Home: 905.782.1005
John@JohnRinella.ca

Hello, I am running for re-election as Trustee with the Durham Catholic District School Board.

It's been with great pleasure to have served the residents of Brooklin at the board table the past four years. Having grown up in the Catholic education system, in both elementary and sec-

ondary, I know the power of the Catholic Graduate Expectations on the formation of a person.

With my wife and I now having two children growing up in a faith filled home, I believe now as I did in 2014 that the protection of our valued education system is a must. As Chair of the Board in the 2016-2017 school year I met with various local leaders and politicians to further promote Catholic education in Durham and throughout the province.

As a committed Catholic and proud member of the Knights of Columbus, I feel strongly about what it means to be Catholic. I will continue to fight for our right to have a publicly funded Catholic education system. I will fight to ensure

our core values are maintained and not compromised when negotiating with various levels of government. We owe it to our children to provide them with the best in order to be the best.

Thank you for your support in 2014. With your vote this October 22, I look to continue to represent you at the board table and, it would be my honour to work with you and your family for another four years.

Please reach out to me anytime john@johnrinella.ca or visit my website at johnrinella.ca. Thank you and God Bless you and your family.

- Learning and Living in Faith

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Friday, August 3, 2018

Meet the Trustee Candidates for the 2018 Municipal Election



Durham District School Board (Select 1, 2 or 3 on your ballot - 3 will be elected)

(Continued from page 3)



Scott Templeton

364 Rosedale Drive,
Whitby
Mobile: 905.442.3566
electtempleton@
gmail.com
www.electtempleton.ca

I have been a resident of Whitby for the past 28 years. My children grew up and attended Schools through the DDSB and now my grandchildren will soon be attending. I want to create a safe environment for both students and teachers and believe this can be accomplished by advocating my points below:

PUTTING STUDENT SAFETY FIRST AND FOREMOST

I believe that teachers and students should have a safe workplace too.

THE NEWER (2015) SEX ED CURRICULUM IN OUR PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM

I believe in moving forward not backwards!

A MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAM

We need to have Mental health taught in Grade 11 and 12 moved to be taught in grades 7 and 8 with more detail taught through grades 9 – 12.

CONTINUING THE SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM (SRO)

I will support them and work to prevent what happened in Toronto! This program helps build a trusting relationship between our Police and Children!

STOPPING PHYSICAL BULLYING AND CYBERBULLYING... PERIOD

The current Sex Education Curriculum helps teach children and to build the bridge needed to put a stop to such incidents!

UPGRADING OUR OLDER SCHOOLS WITH PROPER AIR CIRCULATION AND AIR CONDITIONING

...and making sure new schools are air conditioned!

PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY SCHOOLS FROM CLOSING

There are other methods that can be used to keep these schools open!

Experience:

- Durham District School Board Parent Involvement Committee (PIC)
 - School Community Council (R.A. Hutchison, Anderson HS, Donald A. Wilson)
 - Sesquicentennial Education Committee Town of Whitby
 - Whitby Town Carnival Committee
 - Whitby Library Board – Helped with Securing New Whitby Library and the Brooklin Library/ community centre
 - Proudly named Sir William Stephenson PS (Submitted name and chosen)
 - Numerous fundraising committees including Community Living, SASS (School Alliance of Student Songwriters) and many others!
- On, Oct 22, I am asking for your support!



Christine Thatcher

105 Tremount Street,
Whitby
Mobile: 905.655.4370
christhatcher105@
gmail.com

I want your vote. My name is Christine Thatcher and I have lived in Brooklin for more than twenty years. As a parent, teacher, coach and swim official in our community I have continually demonstrated my commitment to children and their education. As your DDSB Trustee I

will be that needed link between you and the school board.

We need strong voices to tackle the pressing issues, ranging from violence in our schools to bullying, from bussing to school closings. We need trustees who understand the effect that continual underfunding from the provincial government has on our children. As a Special Education Resource Teacher, I have seen first hand the impact that these issues have in our classrooms. As a mother I have shared the joy, the wonder and the challenges of my own children as they attended school in Durham.

I believe that my experience with my own children, my work as a teacher and coach and my many years working in the corporate sector have given me the skills, knowledge and empathy needed to be your voice on the DDSB.

While I have extensive experience in planning, meeting deadlines, and budgeting, my greatest asset is that I know how to listen. In all my careers I have always believed that learning begins with listening. I will be there to hear your concerns. I will be there to make your concerns known. A vote for Christine Thatcher is a vote for open communication and action.



Thomas Wall

10 Gilchrist Court, Whitby
Home: 905.430.2647
Mobile: 289.892.3819
walltom999@gmail.com

My years at as a teacher at Meadowcrest Public School taught me a great deal about the families and community of Brooklin. I loved teaching in Brooklin and always enjoyed a great working relationship with parents because I respected them and we always shared the mutual goal of helping their children succeed.

To be given the opportunity to work closely with the families of Brooklin was one of the

highlights of my career. You will notice on my 'Thomas Wall for DDSB Trustee Facebook group' that I am still friends with many of them. I am so pleased to be given the chance to work with these families again.

The main theme of my campaign is:
"Our students deserve the best."

That means well run schools with programming that is responsive to the needs of the students.

After much consultation, I have developed a 5 Point Plan to guide my mandate as Trustee.

- Improving school safety by tackling bullying and violence in our schools.
- Working to provide timely and effective

special education programs.

- Improving access to critical mental health supports.
- Oppose school closures.
- Rapid response to parent concerns.

I believe that service delayed is service denied. That is why I pledge to work hard to get our kids the help they need when they need it. We will succeed by working collaboratively in the best interests of our students. As I said to my students many times: No ONE of us is strong as ALL of us working together.

I look forward to working together with the families of Brooklin as DDSB Trustee.

Durham Region Election Candidates

Meet the Trustee Candidates for the 2018 Municipal Election



Durham District School Board (Select 1, 2 or 3 on your ballot - 3 will be elected)



Luigia Ayotte

43 Stargell Drive, Whitby
Home: 905.430.9544
Mobile: 905.442.3741
electayottedsbtrustee@gmail.com

As a Whitby resident for over 39 years and grandparent of five children attending Whitby/Brooklin schools, I believe all students are entitled to and deserve an education that helps them achieve their full potential. Quality educational experiences that provide children with the attention and support they need to thrive is key to building success, and as parents and grandparents, it is up to us to make certain this happens.

My vision is of an education system that puts students first and whose practices always effect what is best for kids. A student centered school is safe, free of bullying and promotes equitable outcomes.

My belief that all students can learn and succeed when given the needed support and encouragement coupled with my work experience and knowledge of education systems, has prepared me to be entrusted with the important work of a school trustee.

Our kids future matters and school trustees have a responsibility to ensure organizational structures and practices are held to high standards. As a trustee my task will be to make sure every child is provided with experiences that not only help them gain knowledge and develop

important skills, but also builds character traits that help them become principled adults that are strong and resilient.

As a member of the Board of Trustees, my task will be to work hard on behalf of all Whitby/Brooklin students, parents and community members in making sure tax dollars go to providing the support, resources and materials needed to deliver outstanding programs to all students in every classroom.

As your trustee, I will make certain your voices are heard, that I am visible, accessible and responsive and I will actively participate in all discussions and decisions on behalf of all Whitby/Brooklin students and their families.



Jim Barclay

319 Kent Street, Unit 3,
Whitby
905.706.8906
jambarc@yahoo.ca

Jim Barclay retired from teaching seven years ago after a 32-year career with the DDSB teaching phys. ed., physics and science.

His concerns are as follows:

- School start times - Some high schools start as early as 8 am. Teenagers aren't at their peak at that hour. I don't understand why we can't start later and figure out a way so kids are more into their day - I know bus companies seem to be driving some of this, but don't they work for the board?

- Info to parents - If something happens in a school, it's not really open to public what is going on

- Don't know how much power the board will have under the current government. But clearly Queen's Park doesn't understand the school system. I've been in schools for so long, I would be a good voice to combat regressive changes. Socially, with respect to sex ed and gender identity, to go back 25 years is a ludicrous way to go about it.

- I always thought it was strange that people elected as trustees didn't understand what was going on in schools. I would like to change that.



Niki Lundquist

Business Phone:
416.718.8473
Mobile: 416.566.6854
nikislundquist@icloud.com

I have been fortunate, over the last few months, to speak with thousands of parents, teachers, friends and neighbours about their views of our public education system. As a parent with an elementary-aged child in the DDSB, their stories and concerns are similar to my own.

Many students in our system are not being set up for success. Educators are having to navigate an under-resourced system and in many classrooms, children, especially those with

special needs, do not have the tools and supports they need to succeed. Parents, teachers and students are frustrated. The situation is so dire that school boards, including the DDSB, have been borrowing from other areas of spending to try to meet those needs.

Violence and bullying in schools are also consistently raised as critical issues impacting education. There appears to be a general consensus that administrators do not have tools at their disposal to positively address these situations and introduce accountability for negative behaviours.

We can better support healthy and safe learning environments by providing staff and administrators with the policy tools they need to perform their jobs and give effect to the com-

mitment to create violence-free and bully-free schools.

We need trustees who will be vocal about gaps in education and about the importance of giving every child the opportunity to reach their potential. Trustees must be strong advocates for, and guardians of, a properly funded, public education system and must be committed to strengthening the connection between school trustees, families and the community.

I have a spent my career being a strong, principled, legal advocate and I'm committed to using that skill set to advance the interests of accessible, quality, public education. I look forward to working with our community to ensure that all voices become integral to decision-making of the DDSB.



Sherri Simzer

61 Tempo Way, Whitby
Home: 905.425.0405
Cell: 289-927-5688
sherrisimz@rogers.com

~ Integrity and Experience ~
Sherri Simzer is running for a seat on the Durham District School Board in the Town of Whitby. She brings 30 years of success in public education with a focus on teaching life and job skills to help youth to secure gainful employment.

"I look forward to once again supporting all students to achieve to their potential."
Sherri offers an impressive resume:

- Created the Employment and Education

Centre (EEC) serving as Executive Director for 30 years.

- EEC became the hub of training and job opportunities for youth throughout Leeds-Grenville in partnership with employers.

- EEC expanded its services to provide computer training, career and financial counselling and innovative programs for youth.

- Significant experience as a Board member:
- 12 years - Leeds and Grenville Community Development Corporation (2 years as President)

- 6 years - Leeds Legal Aid Committee
- 8 years - First Work Provincial Association (4 years as President)

- 4 years - Ontario Network of Employment Skills Training Projects (2 years as President)

- Sherri is the only woman to receive the Brockville and District Chamber of Commerce's Lifetime Business Achievement

Award and the only recipient from the not-for-profit sector.

Sherri's children graduated from the Ontario public education system. Randy became a Civil Engineer while Aimee is a Registered Nurse.

Sherri understands key education issues:

- "The province's "progressive discipline" policy is allowing students and school staff to be physically injured. They deserve a safe working environment."
- "The new Health and Physical Education curriculum is needed to ensure students understand consent, healthy relationships, boundaries and sexual orientation."

- "We should explore how to expand the School Resource Officer Program to support all students and their diversities."

Durham Region Election Candidates

Friday, August 31, 2018

Brooklin Town Crier

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Meet the Candidates for the 2018 Municipal Election



Durham Regional Chair (Select 1, 1 will be elected)



Tom Dingwall

Hampton, Ontario
905-926-3517
dinger4@rogers.com

I'm Tom Dingwall and I'm running for Durham Regional Chair.

I am not a politician, but I have dedicated my life to ensuring the safety and security of the residents of Durham Region.

I've worked in every part of this region as a Police Officer and a leader for the past 26 years, lived my whole life and raised my family here.

My platform comes directly from working with and listening to everyday people across the entire Region. It also comes from years of formal training and a hands-on awareness of how this region actually works.

My platform includes:

- Opposing tax increases and implementing known efficiencies to improve services
- Establishing a Regional-Provincial partnership approach to Mental Health and Addiction issues

- Developing a region-wide strategy for supporting seniors, especially in smaller communities
- Seeking out and implementing innovative ideas on improving transit and social programs
- Providing practical, timely and effective support for all of our front-line services
- Proactively work to acquire and service employment lands to attract good paying jobs close to home

My entire career has been based on delivering security, transparency and accountability to Durham Region and I will bring these principles with me into office.



Peter Neal

pwnal@hotmail.com

Durham Region candidate: Peter Neal for Durham Region chairman

Regional government was and is simply another level of taxation. Why the individual communities were assumed to be incompetent of managing their affairs and that a senior level of government was required suggests that politicians love to build hierarchies

whether they can validate such existences as useful and needed.

The chairman and finance position are costing the taxpayer well over \$500,000 a year. Ridiculous. The councillors are part time earning full time wages and big pensions.

The province is looking at this problem starting with the Toronto council.

How has the Regional government seriously improved the lives of those living in the communities in terms of environment, efficient transportation, superior health, fire, police services, parks, encouragement of local small

businesses instead of national chains and foreign businesses? I am for justifiable taxation that takes into account modern environmental and technologies for the benefit of future generations.

The money saved from putting it in these politicians pockets could be used on front line new police gang units to fight the crime war that is coming east to our own streets. We are all tired of the political talk and debating.

Let the staff do their jobs, quit trying to create more expensive consulting work.

Other Regional Chair Candidates

(Editor's Note: The BTC contacted all five candidates, requesting a short summary of their platforms. Only Tom Dingwall and Peter Neal provided them.)

John Mutton

905-441-0791
jmutton@municipalsolutions.ca

John Henry

905-410-2419
john@votejohnhenry.ca

Muhammad Ahsin Sahi

416-587-9334
sahifordurham@gmail.com

Durham Region Election Candidates

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Friday, September 14, 2018

Meet the Candidates for the 2018 Municipal Election



Mayor of Whitby (Select 1, 1 will be elected)



Andrea Kennedy

Campaign Office:
647-696-5783
vote@andreakennedy.ca
www.andreakennedy.ca
facebook.com
/AndreaForWhitbyMayor
twitter.com
/AndreaforMayor
www.linkedin.com
/in/andreakskennedy

My name is Andrea Kennedy, and I want to be your next Mayor.

I am a resident and parent who chose Whitby as a place to live, work, play and stay. I am also a business owner and advisor, and have supported the success of entrepreneurs across the entire Region. I am a community leader who has proudly represented businesses, NFPs, and our municipality at all levels of government and internationally.

Through this lens, I know that Whitby has an opportunity to be at the leading edge of the

wave of leadership change coming across the Region. Whitby needs bold, passionate, and visionary representation at all decision-making tables to ensure that our goals and needs are duly considered and championed. I am running to represent future-focused residents who want to see all of Whitby thrive and grow under this kind of leadership.

There are several issues that residents from across the municipality – north to south, east to west – have shared. As Whitby continues to evolve, the development of lands along the 412 and 407 will draw our entire community closer together, and foremost on every Whitby resident's mind is the issue of jobs. Residents want jobs for themselves, and for their children.

To have more jobs in our community, we need more businesses. To attract the calibre of business we want we need to go out and get them. As Mayor I will actively support staff in identifying, recruiting and securing the busi-

nesses and industries we want. I will advocate for and engage with local, national and global business leaders and founders to partner with Whitby for the benefit of our entire community.

We also want housing options that serve residents across all stages in life. We need choices in size and style of residence, for different sizes and shapes of family, and we must have options across varying degrees of affordability. This is how we will build a complete community we can all choose for our whole lives. Mayor and Council must be well-informed and working alongside staff and our development partners to get this done.

Finally, residents, businesses and stakeholders want, and need, to be fully engaged in our growth and evolution. Collaboration and cooperation are the keys to sustainable change. I will champion updates to our current approach to public consultations, government relations, and resident relations processes to help build relationships, and move projects forward.



Don Mitchell

20 Albert Street, Whitby,
ON, L1M 1A1
Home: 905.655.8341
Mobile: 905.706.3168
m.don.mitchell
@gmail.com

My vision is a balanced, complete and prosperous town - welcoming to all ages - with lots of things to see, do and enjoy. A place we all love to call home.

This vision is rooted in my upbringing. I was born and raised here. Brooklin and Whitby had long and proud histories as genuine towns centred by vibrant downtowns.

When the rapid residential growth - mandated by federal and provincial policies - began in the 1990's, I was North Ward councillor and led the development of our "one downtown" Plan for Brooklin. We designated a large area for future commercial development adjacent to the historic core and opposed other commercial

sprawl. This vision will soon be realized on the lands bounded by Baldwin, Winchester, Ashburn and the 407. This will bring a multitude of exciting shopping and entertainment experiences - and create jobs for residents of all ages. It will also deliver more housing choice - particularly for seniors who need to downsize but want to remain in the village.

Local jobs and prosperity are critical and multiple initiatives are underway:

- our Innovation Hub is growing;
- we keep adding new attractions - (iFly, Rep-talia, Playdium, Le Nordik);
- our vacancy rate on industrial buildings is below 1%;
- our success in business attraction has left us low on serviced employment lands. Through strategic planning, we will be delivering services to all the new employment lands east of the 412.

We are an Age Friendly Town implementing

our Action Plan to make life easier for seniors. We remain a Platinum Level Youth Friendly Town - the highest accreditation. We are now a designated Bicycle Friendly Community - with lots of new trails and paths, highlighted by the connection from Cullen Park through Heber Down to Ashburn.

I will continue to push to remove the tolls on 412 and reduce them on 407 east (which is owned by the Province) to attract more users and reduce the unacceptable congestion on our roads.

I will continue to focus on reducing traffic speeds on residential streets.

We will continue our responsible financial management. Local taxes are mid-range in the GTAH. Whitby has almost no debt. We receive only three cents on the tax dollar to deliver all town services.

We share a wonderful town and were recently recognized as one of the best places to live in Canada - and the best in Durham Region. With your support, we can keep getting better.