

# The Uxbridge COSMOS

Volume 15 No. 36

YOUR UNIVERSE

Thursday, September 19, 2019



**TREE POSE UNDER THE TREES** - Dozens of people of all ages gathered in Elgin Park on Saturday morning for "Yoga in the Park for Charity." Certified Yoga instructors from local fitness centre NRG4Life led the one-hour outdoor session, and proceeds went to the Jennifer Ashleigh Children's Charity.

Photo by John Cavers

## Climate change, Pickering airport key issues during debate

by Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

Five federal election candidates played to a packed house on Monday night as they gathered to face the public and one another in the Uxbridge Community Centre at an all-candidates forum. Most were on cue, some forgot their lines, but all spent time in the spotlight.

The forum, which was presented and hosted by the *Cosmos*, gave an opportunity for the people of Uxbridge to hear from each of the five candidates for Pickering-Uxbridge: Jennifer O'Connell (Liberal), Corneliu Chisu (People's Party of Canada), Cyma Musarat (Conservative), Eileen Higdon (New Democratic Party), and Peter Forint (Green Party). Those attending the forum were given the opportunity to question the candidates, and the key issues of the evening quickly evolved to be climate change and the proposed Pickering airport.

When addressing climate change concerns, each candidate offered his or her party's approach to what Canada's next steps should be.

The Green Party's Peter Forint suggested putting together a cross-party group "to make change war-room style," and to "make it more convenient to do what's right, less convenient to do what's wrong." Liberal MP O'Connell defended her party's carbon tax, saying that putting a "price on pollution" has been effective in other parts of the world. NDP representative Higdon said she was concerned about the world she was leaving her children and grandchildren, and Conservative candidate Musarat quoted party platform from a binder, citing proposed tax credits and promises to meet Paris Accord targets.

PPC candidate Chisu warned that Canadians must not be "alarmist" when discussing the environment, and said he "compares talk about climate change to the time when everyone was saying that the earth was flat."

With regards to the airport, three of the party representatives said they were opposed to building an airport on Class A prime farmland. O'Connell stated that there was no business

case for an airport, Higdon said that she was "shocked that the region supported it," and Forint simply stated: "we don't need an airport," suggesting that a high-speed rail corridor between Windsor and Quebec was a better solution.

The remaining candidates were more undecided. Musarat said that, as a business woman, she could see the economic benefit of an airport, but "needed to know more" before deciding on whether one should be built. Chisu agreed that agriculture was important, but said that an airport was necessary in order to bring jobs to the region.

Other issues brought up by the public were the future of Canada's Indigenous people, and prospects for youth. Gun control was also briefly discussed, as was a national Pharmacare program.

The highlight of the evening, however, was when the candidates were invited to pose questions to one another.

...continued on page 6

Find more @ thecosmos.ca

Books and Authors and even more books

Details on Orange Shirt Day





# The Township of UXBRIDGE

Trail Capital of Canada

## Council & Committee Meetings

Schedule for the month of September, 2019

Monday, September 23

**COUNCIL MEETING**, 7:00 p.m.

Schedule for the month of October, 2019

Monday, October 7

**COMMITTEE MEETING**, 10:00 a.m.

Monday, October 14

**NO MEETING - THANKSGIVING**

## Employment Opportunities

Complete details and qualifications required for these positions are available at

[https://uxbridge.ca/employment\\_opportunities](https://uxbridge.ca/employment_opportunities)

### Township of Uxbridge - Spare Crossing Guards

The Township of Uxbridge is currently seeking Spare Crossing Guards to cover various locations in the Town of Uxbridge. If you are interested in a position, please contact Jo Ann Merrick at 905-852-9181 ext 202 or email: [jmerrick@uxbridge.ca](mailto:jmerrick@uxbridge.ca)

*We thank all those who apply, however, only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. The Township of Uxbridge is an equal opportunity employer in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 and the Ontario Human Rights Code (OHRC). The Township of Uxbridge will provide accommodations throughout the recruitment and selection and/or assessment process to applicants with disabilities and/or needs related to the OHRC. Personal information provided is collected under the authority of The Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.*

## The Thomas Foster Memorial

9449 Conc. 7 (Durham 1) 4km north of Uxbridge  
[www.fostermemorial.com](http://www.fostermemorial.com)

The Foster is open for tours by appointment. Call 905-640-3966

### Fridays at the Foster

Concert Series every Friday night

May-Sept 7:30-8:30 p.m. Admission is donation at the door

### Sept. 20 Jamie Thompson –Urban Flute Project

Jamie specializes in performing in interesting architectural & natural environments in over 50 cities world-wide.

**Sept. 27 Friday at the Foster Finale-Mike Burns** Mike Burns, An entertainer & host to a variety of music styles.

## Uxbridge Historical Centre



### Stage Readings by Theatre on the Ridge

Sunday, September 22, 2019, 1 – 3 p.m.  
Calling all theatre lovers! The Uxbridge Historical Centre is hosting Theatre on the Ridge for a stage reading of 'A Collection of One-Act Victorian Plays', held in the Fifth Line Church on the UHC grounds. Admission is by donation (suggested \$10).

### Celebrate 10th Annual Culture Days!

Friday, September 27, 2019 10am – 3pm

As we near the end of harvest, UHC staff are offering a day of harvest-based crafts! Make herb dolls, try leaf-printing and sample our own herbs.

Call 905-852-5854 or email [museum@uxbridge.ca](mailto:museum@uxbridge.ca) for more information!

# Uxbridge at a Glance

The Corporation of The Township of Uxbridge  
51 Toronto Street South, P.O. Box 190  
Uxbridge L9P 1T1  
905-852-9181 [info@uxbridge.ca](mailto:info@uxbridge.ca)

## FROM THE TAX OFFICE...2019 Final Property Tax Bills

Residential, Managed Forest and Farmland Final Property Tax Bills were mailed May 29, 2019. Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential Final Property Tax Bills were mailed June 6, 2019.

**The Final Tax Installment is due on September 26, 2019.**

For non-payment of a tax levy on or before the respective due dates of each installment, a penalty of 1.25% shall be imposed on the first day of each calendar month and thereafter in which the default continues. Failure to receive a Tax Bill does not excuse the taxpayer from responsibility for payment of taxes nor liability of any penalty or interest due to late payments. The penalty/interest charges cannot be waived or reduced by the Tax Department or Council for any reason.

Tax payments can be made: in person by Interac, Cheque or Cash; by Mail (Post-dated cheques are accepted); Telephone & Internet banking; Drop box at Town Hall (No Cash please); or at most Financial Institutions. **Credit Cards and E-Transfers are NOT accepted for tax payments.**

**PLEASE RETAIN YOUR 2019 FINAL TAX BILL FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES.** If a reprinted tax bill, receipt or Statement of Account is required for any year's taxes, a fee of \$12 will apply.

If you did not receive your 2019 Final Tax Bill, please call the Tax Department at 905-852-9181 ext. 211.

## NOTICE OF THE ADOPTION OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE OFFICIAL PLAN AND NOTICE OF PASSING OF A ZONING BY-LAW THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE

**TAKE NOTICE** that the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge passed **By-law No. 2019-135** on the 9th day of September, 2019, pursuant to Section 17 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended, to adopt **Amendment No. 63** to the Township of Uxbridge Official Plan. Council also passed **Zoning By-law No. 2019-136**, pursuant to Section 34 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended. Both amendments are to correct technical issues in accordance with the policies of the Township of Uxbridge Official Plan, in particular Section 3.14 which requires consideration of such minor modifications at a Council meeting. The Amendments apply to all lands in the Township of Uxbridge.

**AND TAKE NOTICE** that any person or agency may appeal to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal in respect of the Official Plan Amendment or the Zoning By-law by filing with the Clerk of The Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge, not later than 4:30 p.m. on the **8th day of October, 2019**, a notice of appeal. The notice of appeal must set out the objection to the Official Plan Amendment or By-law and the reasons in support of the objection together with the required Local Planning Appeal Tribunal fee of **\$300.00**. Cheques must be made payable to the **MINISTER OF FINANCE**.

The proposed Official Plan Amendment is exempt from approval by the Regional Municipality of Durham and the decision of Council is final if a notice of appeal is not received before or on the last day for filing a notice of appeal.

**PLEASE NOTE** that only individuals, corporations and public bodies may appeal an Official Plan Amendment and/or Zoning By-law to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal. A notice of appeal may not be filed by an unincorporated association or group. However, a notice of appeal may be filed in the name of an individual who is a member of the association or the group on its behalf.

An explanation of the purpose and effect of the Amendments is given below. The complete Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment and background material are available for inspection in the Clerk's Department at the Uxbridge Township Office during regular office hours.

**DATED AT THE TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE THIS 18th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2019.**

Debbie Leroux, Clerk

Township of Uxbridge

Box 190, Uxbridge, Ontario

L9P 1T1

905-852-9181 Ext. 228

[dleroux@uxbridge.ca](mailto:dleroux@uxbridge.ca)

Township Files: OPA 63 and ZBA 2019-09

Applicant: Township of Uxbridge

### PURPOSE AND EFFECT OF THE AMENDMENTS

The purpose of Amendment No. 63 to the Official Plan of the Township of Uxbridge is to make a number of minor amendments to clarify the intent of the Plan and/or update the Plan.

The purpose of the Zoning By-law Amendment is for the purpose of the correction of grammatical or typographical errors and other technical issues.

FOLLOW US



MORE INFO

[www.uxbridge.ca](http://www.uxbridge.ca)

## NOTICE

### CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE BOARD APPOINTMENT

The Council of the Township of Uxbridge is now inviting applications from members of the public who are qualified electors of the Township of Uxbridge and wish to have their names considered for appointment to the Property Standards Committee.

Any persons interested in offering their services by accepting an appointment to this Committee are invited to submit a letter of interest along with a completed Volunteer - Committee Member Application Form, available at the Clerk's Department or on the Township of Uxbridge website under Committees and Initiatives, [http://uxbridge.ca/committees\\_and\\_initiatives](http://uxbridge.ca/committees_and_initiatives), to the undersigned by Friday, September 27, 2019.

Any questions regarding this appointment may be directed to the undersigned.

Debbie Leroux, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk Township of Uxbridge

51 Toronto Street South, P.O. Box 190, Uxbridge, Ontario, L9P 1T1

Email: [dleroux@uxbridge.ca](mailto:dleroux@uxbridge.ca) Telephone: 905-852-9181

## Pearls & Lace Craft Show

One of the longest running shows in Uxbridge happens

Saturday, November 2, at the Goodwood Community Centre!

Book your table with Bev at

[bnortheast@powergate.ca](mailto:bnortheast@powergate.ca)

or call 905-640-3966.

## PLEASE JOIN US Thursday, Sept. 26 at 7:00p.m. Uxbridge Public Library



FOR THE UNVEILING OF OUR NEW  
SCULPTURE IN HONOUR OF  
**ALEXANDRA HARTMANN**

AND TO CELEBRATE THE IMPORTANCE OF BOOKS AND LIBRARIES

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED AFTER THE

SPEECHES AND THE UNVEILING

DONATIONS WILL BE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

## The 2019-2020 Fall & Winter Community Guide is here!

Pick up your copy at Uxpool or at Town Hall



## Should The Township Allow Backyard Chickens?

Learn more at: <https://uxbridge.ca>

Take our on-line survey at:  
[www.surveymonkey.com/r/Uxbridge\\_Chicken\\_Survey](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Uxbridge_Chicken_Survey)



Township of Uxbridge documents are available in alternate formats upon request.  
Please fill out the Request for Alternate Formats Form at [uxbridge.ca/accessibility](http://uxbridge.ca/accessibility)

email: [accessibility@uxbridge.ca](mailto:accessibility@uxbridge.ca)  
phone: 905-852-9181 ext.209




# Uxbridge at a Glance

905-852-9181    info@uxbridge.ca

The Corporation of The Township of Uxbridge  
51 Toronto Street South, P.O. Box 190, Uxbridge L9P 1T1

## You have found the path that will lead you to the best work of your life!



The Township of Uxbridge, designated as the "Trail Capital of Canada", is seeking a **Chief Administrative Officer**.


Explore this opportunity that makes work an adventure, and spend 100% of your time doing what you do best.

The Township of Uxbridge is situated in a beautiful valley on the northern slope of the Oak Ridges Moraine, all within an hour's commute to major markets in Durham Region, York Region and the City of Toronto. It is home to over 1,700 businesses operating in a diverse range of sectors from agriculture to professional services and advanced manufacturing. The natural ambience and beauty of the Township is a big draw for not only the businesses, but their customers as well.

The unique landscape and multitude of heritage locations located throughout the Township has also made it a very popular destination for a multitude of film productions over the years.

In 2009, Uxbridge Township received a federal designation by Industry Canada as the "Trail Capital of Canada". Thousands of hikers, cyclists, equestrians, skiers, and lovers of fresh air enjoy over 220 kilometers of seasonally managed trails each year.

Uxbridge has much to offer by way of recreation, entertainment, heritage and culture, a thriving arts community and the opportunity to participate in any one of the countless volunteer organizations that actively contribute to the quality of life of the over 20,000 residents in this vibrant community.



Reporting to the Mayor and Council, you will provide strategic vision, leadership and guidance on the general management of the corporation as well as participate in the overall direction of the municipality.

You will lead by example our approximately 100 employees toward a shared vision; empowering them to achieve it and inspiring them to make a difference by embracing their commitment to Public service excellence.

As the most senior administrative official, you will play an integral role in creating a safe and inclusive workplace, by encouraging a culture of openness, authenticity, collaboration and respect.

As a successful senior executive, you are a proven consensus-builder with the ability to influence a diverse group of stakeholders. You have implemented strategic plans, complex initiatives and created opportunities that encourage community development.

Our ideal candidate for **Chief Administrative Officer** has a deep understanding of Public Sector administration, municipal finance, talent strategy and governance. You are an innovation advocate with a passion to collaborate, engage and embrace new ideas to execute meaningful, efficient and agile service operations, while providing an enhanced citizen-centric experience.

Please contact Kartik Kumar at [kartik.kumar@lesp.ca](mailto:kartik.kumar@lesp.ca) for more details and a complete position profile.


**DEADLINE FOR ALL APPLICATIONS IS OCTOBER 18, 2019.**



**CHOOSE FORWARD**

**RE-ELECT JENNIFER O'CONNELL**  
PICKERING-UXBRIDGE

1 (844) 488-7669    info@jenniferoconnell.ca    jenniferoconnell.liberal.ca



## SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER

### THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE

**Take Notice** that tenders are invited for the purchase of the land described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on October 3, 2019, at the Township of Uxbridge Municipal Office, Town Hall, 51 Toronto Street South, Uxbridge Ontario.

**Description of Lands:**  
Roll No. 18 29 010 007 01200 0000; 1389 Brock Rd., Uxbridge; PINs 26824-0085(LT), 26824-0094(LT), 26824-0095(LT), 26824-0097 (LT), 26824-0099(LT); File No.18-01  
**Minimum Tender Amount: \$474,290.65**

**Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to, environmental risks or any other matters relating to the lands to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers.** This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. A full copy of the tax sale advertisement and further information about this matter is available on line at [www.OntarioTaxSales.ca](http://www.OntarioTaxSales.ca) or [uxbridge.ca](http://uxbridge.ca) or you may contact Susan Straughan, Tax Collector, The Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge, Town Hall, 51 Toronto Street South, P.O. Box 190, Uxbridge ON L9P 1T1. Phone: (905) 852-9181 Ext. 216; Email: [sstraughan@uxbridge.ca](mailto:sstraughan@uxbridge.ca)

## Master gardeners answer cannabis questions

Since the legalization of cannabis last year, Durham master gardeners have fielded many questions about growing the plant, its side effects, medical applications and legalities. While they understand why people may turn to them for advice, they have felt ill-equipped to respond to the various queries. As a result, Durham Master Gardeners has gathered a panel of industry professionals together to answer these questions and more. On Thursday, Sept. 26, the group is hosting Cannabis Mysteries Unveiled, a cannabis panel information night. The event will take place from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the King St. Community Church, 611 King St. W., in Oshawa.


The three panelists are Sjoerd Visser (horticulturist, member of Access to Cannabis for Medical Purpose Regulations, licensed medical grower); Joe Goldfarb (cannabis educator from Durham College and Centennial College); and Abby Sampson (director of the National Institute for Cannabis Health and Education).

The Durham Master Gardeners membership was asked to submit questions, and from those they have created a series of questions that will be posed to the panel.

Master Gardener Norine Blythe sees the night as "an opportunity to learn" about the unique growing and harvesting features of the plant; the difference between CBD and THC and their uses; and to learn about the legal pitfalls that still exist.

"Harvesting the plant is more of a science than an art," says Blythe. While there has always been great interest in cannabis, legalization has opened the door for conversation and a greater distribution of information.

Registration is required. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased online at [durhammastergardeners.ca](http://durhammastergardeners.ca)



**Budget Blinds**

905-487-8363  
Toll-free 888-982-8343  
[budgetblinds.com](http://budgetblinds.com)



# Our two cents

## And surprise of the evening goes to...

Well, the *Cosmos* has another one of its getting-to-be-really-popular all-candidate forums under its belt, after having hosted the federal riding candidates at the arena/community centre on Monday night. And even though we've done it a few times, we're happy to say that we are always surprised by what can happen in a room full of people when politics are involved. We've given a brief overview of the evening in our front page story, but here we'd like to fill in the picture a bit, give it all some colour (no reference to the cartoon, there). We can still be non-partisan, we'll just flesh out the characters a bit more.

We do admit to having preconceived notions of how people may behave during these open forums. But things on Monday started to get fun almost immediately when *Standard* reporter Darryl Knight posed a very un-press-like question to the candidates, asking "Supposing you can't vote for yourself, who on this stage would you vote for?", drawing a collective gasp from the audience. That set things up, and it rolled from there.

For example - we've met Conservative candidate Cyma Musarat several times around town, of late. She's been out to all kinds of events, and for such a petite person, she's a dynamo personality. We expected her to take over the stage with her gregarious nature. But when it came to answering questions, she hid behind a binder, reading the party line on the issue at hand. Very few of her answers seemed to be her own, which likely did her no favours.

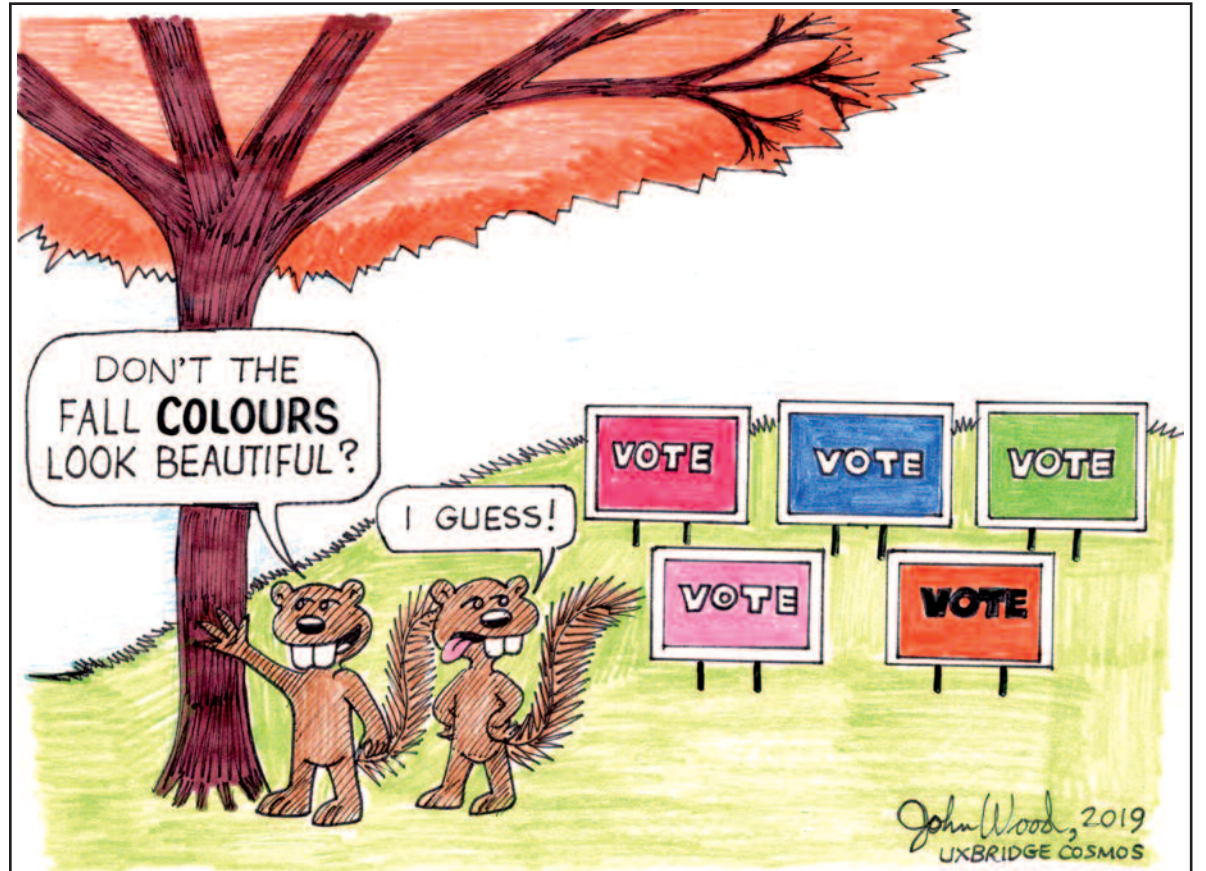
NDP candidate Eileen Higdon was a delight to listen to, with her Scottish brogue - indeed, the best line of the night was "I ha'nae been into th' whiskey, I promise ya!" after stumbling over the phrase "electoral reform" and calling it "electrical reform" (in her defence, she said she was suffering from a cold and not popping on all cylinders). Between that and her fussing over making sure other candidates had water in their glasses, she was more doting grandma than political warrior. But she did know what she was passionate about.

Current riding MP Jennifer O'Connell didn't seem to suffer at the hands of either her opponents (although Musarat didn't seem to notice the other candidates, focussing solely on O'Connell at every opportunity) or the public nearly as much as we thought she might. From the levels of applause and not-so-quiet murmurings in the crowd, we think it safe to say the audience was largely made up of supporters. O'Connell knew her stuff (without a binder) and appeared genuinely eager to represent the riding for four more years.

PPC man Corneliu Chisu was lucky in that he didn't have to face any questions from his party's number one platform issue - immigration. He dodged a bullet on that one, but some of his other stances didn't seem to impress the crowd.

The Green Party's Peter Forint owned the evening. He appeared to be real, giving concise, genuine answers to the crowd and to his opponents, and he likely earned at least the respect, if not the vote, of many of those present. Those Greens may surprise us all come Oct. 21.

Thank you, candidates, for spending time with us on Monday night. Thank you to everyone who came to hear what they had to say. Thank you, Ted Barris, for moderating, and to Rogers TV who thinks our forums are worth recording and broadcasting! Thirty-two days to go - we're sure there are more surprises in store.



## Letters to the Editor

It must be close to Christmas. The Salvation Army Kettle is at Zehrs now to raise funds for the less fortunate in our community.

Remember, all the funds raised at the Kettle go to: the Back to School back pack program, camp for children, snow removal for seniors, tutoring for public school when required, Christmas food hampers and toys and clothing for the family, assistance during the year with heat, hydro, food and clothing, and more programs as the need arises.

And your Salvation Army is run completely by volunteers.

Let's make every child's dream come true on Christmas morning and give them presents to open.

Thank you, Uxbridge.

**Bev Northeast**  
Chair of Salvation Army  
905-640-3966  
905-852-0090

Mayor Barton is quite correct: five million aborted Canadians goes over anyone's definition of a line. After all, being subjected to abor-

tion is traumatizing for the unborn child. If only the Americans had complained that pictures of My Lai were traumatizing, we might still be in Vietnam.

How is sanitizing the picture going to solve the problem?

Before Debbie Leroux gets out her pen, remember that human nature rests on a foundation of natural law, and violating natural law results in dead bodies. If you can't handle the image, respect the reality, don't confiscate the camera.

**Blaise Thompson**  
Uxbridge

February is "Black History Month," which is a good idea. "Orange Shirt Day" is a START. But it is not enough to even acknowledge the horrors that the Indigenous People endured. The schools, no access to clean water, and so many more injustices.

We need a "First Nations Month." Without the Indigenous People's help, we would not be the Canada that we now have, coast to coast to coast.

Can you even name 12 of Canada's First Nations? And yes, they are "nations."

**Udelle Wood**  
Uxbridge

**Are you a woman  
with a DEEP  
singing voice?  
Turn your talent  
into a fun hobby!  
Call Chris for  
details  
905-473-2342**

## The Uxbridge COSMOS

9,500 copies of The Cosmos are published each Thursday in the Township of Uxbridge: 8,800 delivered by mail, 700 available in stores and boxes.

Publisher/Editor Lisha Van Nieuwenhove 905.852.1900  
Advertising/Sales 905.852.1900

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**Office Hours:** Monday - Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., Friday to 4 p.m.

**EDITORIAL POLICY:** Opinions expressed by columnists, contributors and in letters to the editor are not necessarily those of The Cosmos. Letters must be signed and the telephone number provided (number will not be published). Requests that a name be withheld will be honoured only if there is a compelling reason. Errors brought to our attention will be corrected. The Cosmos reserves the right to edit and/or refuse to publish unsolicited material. **ADVERTISING POLICY:** Ad deadline is 12 noon Tuesday the week of publication. The Cosmos reserves the right to refuse any advertisement. The Cosmos is not liable for slight changes or typographical errors in advertisements or any other errors or omissions in advertisements. All material herein, including advertising design, is copyrighted, and may not be reproduced in any form without permission.



**HALLOWEEN  
& Fall Décor**

**September  
20, 21, 27 & 28  
10 am - 4 pm**

**Chances Are**  
20 Bascon Street, Uxbridge





## A note from Dave's desk

column by Mayor Dave Barton

### A September synopsis

September in Uxbridge is always hopping, and this year has been no exception!

I would like to begin by offering a hearty congratulations to the Uxbridge Fall Fair Board and the many volunteers involved in putting on three days of jam-packed entertainment for our community. This was an incredible amount of hard work by dozens of volunteers, but it paid off, as literally thousands of people attended and enjoyed themselves.

I also commend the organizers and participants of the Annual Terry Fox Run for their hard work. The run on Sunday, Sept. 14 was well attended. This small group of volunteers raised over \$21,000. Since it's start in 1981, the Uxbridge run has raised more than \$500,000 for the fight against cancer. Well done, Uxbridge!

Last week, the Attorney General's office renamed the Oshawa Courthouse the Lieutenant-Colonel Samuel S. Sharpe, DSO, MP Courthouse. The name change was the result many years of lobbying from all levels of government, and I am thrilled that "our" local hero can be commemorated in this way. It was also touching that local teacher Tish MacDonald was at the unveiling with several USS students, all of whom are excellent examples of how remembrance should be done.

Local Food Month is underway here in Uxbridge, with delicious offerings from our local restaurants. The Farmers' Market had a

successful Harvest Moon Festival fundraiser last Saturday, with plenty of live music, local food and drink. The Second Wedge Brewing Co. was rocking and it was great to see a sell-out event to support the community. Coming up is the Farm to Train event, too, so get out and support your local growers at their farm markets, at the town Farmers' Market, or at one of our local restaurants.

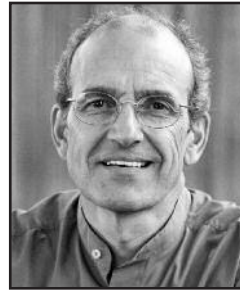
Celebration of the Arts is also happening, and the Township is proud to host the Juried Art Show and the Children's Art show until the 22nd of September. There are lots of Celebration events to take in, and next month the Blue Heron bookstore has lined up an amazing book lovers festival that you won't want to miss.

Our parks and trails crews, alongside volunteers, are hard at work refurbishing the trail system in Centennial Park behind Town Hall, making improvements to drainage and the trail surface on the Brookdale and Ewen Trails. In partnership with Hela Spice, we have also improved the path network behind the Legion and the Hela Spice building, which I know will be a benefit to the many who use that path to get back and forth to school. The pump park is coming along nicely; I can't wait to get a ride in.

Don't forget to respond to our Backyard Chicken Survey before the end of next week, my fellow councillors and I are keen to learn what you think of this idea!



Uxbridge represents at the renaming of the Oshawa Courthouse to the Lieutenant-Colonel Samuel S. Sharpe, DSO, MP Courthouse. From left: Mayor Dave Barton, Tish MacDonald, Regional Chair John Henry, USS students Emma Webb, Ashlyn McKinney, Maya Burgess-Stansfield, Heith Niemi, artist Tyler Briley, Bob Chapman, MP Erin O'Toole. Front, from left: Jasmine Robinson, Taylor Trent. Photo submitted by Dave Barton



## The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

### Youngsters aren't joiners

The president began the meeting by departing from the usual agenda. Normally, after bringing the gavel down to start the latest meeting of his local Probus club in southwestern Ontario, Rod Devitt would invite members say hello and shake hands with the members next to them. But this time Rod had a special guest to introduce.

"Gentlemen, I'd like you to meet Preston," Devitt said. "He's slightly underage for our club, but today he's celebrating his 12th birthday."

It was the Monday morning meeting of Devitt's Probus Burlington Lakeshore Club. A hundred members had come out, in part, to hear a talk/presentation based on one of my books, but largely because they enjoy what they call "fellowship." Devitt and his members have all mostly retired from their professional or business careers. With plenty of time on their hands, they enjoy conversation, outings, socializing and hearing guest speakers. But most are over 60, some in their 80s. Devitt's guest, 12-year-old Preston, was a military buff and his birthday present was to miss school and catch one of my talks.

"We're grooming him for membership down the road," Devitt quipped.

He'd better. I'm no demographer, but I sense that all around us, organizations that require volunteer membership to perpetuate themselves are finding it tougher and tougher to recruit younger members. It's certainly true in some churches, service clubs, associations, youth groups and even trade unions. Surveys show that young professional people avoid associations because they think they're the exclusive domain of management. Young, incoming members of trade unions don't participate actively in the movements that represent their workforces because they feel powerless and oppressed by global forces and dismissed by their bosses. Young women seeking to join such adventure groups as Girl Guides have found clubs shutting down because the number of volunteer leaders is dwindling.

"Around 70,000 young people are missing out on the chance to make friends, have adventures and improve skills such as confidence," explained one Girl Guide representative in the U.K., "because of the shortage of people willing to give their time."

These days in Canada, I don't sense younger people have an affinity to join anything. Even our own local, Sunday adult recreational hockey league has suffered from youth apathy. While the ranks of the non-contact, no slap-

shot leagues aged over-40 and over-50 have enjoyed an explosion in the number of participants, rec teams aged under-40 are shrinking.

The same dearth of youth is evident among branches of the Royal Canadian Legion. In Canada over the last quarter century, the Legion was composed largely of veterans of the Second World War and the Korean War. More recently, Canadian branches are losing about 8,000 members a year, mostly due to natural deaths of their members. Younger vets don't feel the attraction of their older brethren. One younger vet told the *York Guardian* newspaper, "They had a lot of associate members (non-veterans at the branch) and I didn't have much in common with the people there."

Just this week, I made a presentation to another Probus Club in Muskoka. Located in one of Ontario's growing retirement communities, its membership, mostly aged 65 and up, is flourishing. During the business part of the meeting on Tuesday, the club president presented a notice of motion. At the club's upcoming AGM, members will be asked to vote on whether to expand membership from 175 to 200; the membership chair said there was already a waiting list of 25.

"We may be older, but we're growing," he said.

Probus Clubs are a spinoff of Rotary International; the first was established in 1966 in Caterham, England. Today, Probus Clubs boast more than 4,000 local chapters worldwide, with a total membership of more than 400,000 men and women. The club's apparent founder, Rotarian Harold Blanchard, explained the club's origin.

"One of our more erudite members came up with the idea of PROBUS, or PROfessional BUSiness," Blanchard said, "assuring us that PROBUS was a Latin word from which came 'probity' (uprightness, honesty, high-principled)."

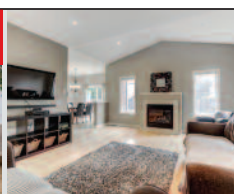
Whether upright and honest or not, Probus Clubs appear to be thriving among retirees wanting to stay engaged. For some reason, however, young people do not feel the same compunction to join in. No matter, as far as Rod Devitt, is concerned. In jest, but aware that social organizations today only survive if they recruit successfully, Devitt handed his 12-year-old guest Preston a membership sign-up form.

"Don't worry, Preston," he said. "You can take the next 65 years or so to complete your membership application."

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## COMING UP

### THIS WEEKEND

**Thurs., Sept. 19: Goodwood United Church Beef Dinner.** Goodwood Community Centre, doors open 4:40 p.m. Roast beef, potatoes, veggies, dessert. \$20, tickets at the door. Take away available. For information call 905-640-3347.

**Sat., Sept. 21: Oak Ridges Trail Association Hike,** 7 a.m. Al Shaw. 1 hr., 5+ km moderate pace hike. Join us for breakfast after the hike. Meet at the roadside parking on the west side of Conc. 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Rd. 21. Contact: Joan Taylor 905-477-2161

**Sun., Sept. 22: Oak Ridges Trail Association Hike,** 9:30 a.m. Leader's Choice. 2.5km; slow; 2hrs. A hike introducing the principals of forest bathing and explain the health benefits of being outdoors in nature. If possible, please bring a water-proof mat or something to sit on. Meet at Uxbridge Countryside Preserve parking behind Walmart, Uxbridge. Contact: Pat Baldwin 905-985-5257 (before 9 p.m.)

**Sun., Sept. 22: Victorian One-Act Plays: Stage Readings by Theatre on the Ridge.** Uxbridge Historical Centre Fifth Line Church, 1 - 3 p.m.

Cost: \$10

### NEXT WEEK

**Wed., Sept. 25: Bethesda-Reach Women's Institute Meeting.** Epsom United Church, 7:30 p.m. Theme: "What makes a good citizen?" All ladies welcome.

**Sat., Sept. 28: Fall Fantasies Bazaar.** Uxbridge United Church, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Featuring a variety of vendors, raffle, hot dogs & refreshments. For information contact 705-228-1191.

**Sat., Sept. 28: Walk With Us - Sunrise walk event.** Herrema Soccer Fields, 9:30 a.m. sign in BBQ lunch, raffle, bake sale & children's activities! Call 905-852-4192 or email info@sunriseuxbridge.com to sign up and get pledge forms. \$25 minimum pledge per walker, children 10yrs/older \$10, under 12 free

**Sun., Sept. 29: Orange Shirt Day.** Various activities throughout the day include: 10:30 a.m. - Ecumenical Service at St. Paul's Anglican Church, featuring Rev. Leigh Kearn, co-ordinator, Indigenous Ministries in the Anglican Church, & Matthew Stevens, cultural coordinator for Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation. 12 noon - Orange Shirt Walk

from Centennial Park to Trinity United Church. 12:30 - 1:45 p.m. Lunch at Trinity United Church (\$15 Advance Tickets Required) Tickets at participating churches. 2 p.m. Guest speaker Rev. Leigh Kearn. 2 - 4 p.m. - free concert (at Trinity United Church) More info: <http://maamawicollective.ca/OrangeShirt>

**Sun., Sept. 29: Family Music Night.** Uxbridge Baptist Church, 7 p.m. Presented by the Uxbridge Branch of the Canadian Bible Society, featuring the singing group "The Master's Four." A free will offering will be taken. Refreshments and fellowship to follow.

### UPCOMING

**Mon., Sept. 30: Uxbridge-Scott Historical Society Public Meeting "150 years of Free Masonry in Uxbridge".** Zeredatha Lodge, 26 Spruce St., 7 p.m. Learn how Free Masons have been part of the Uxbridge community as they celebrate their 150th Birthday. Light refreshments will be served.

**Wed., Oct. 2: Shuffleboard** at Uxbridge Senior's Center begins, Mondays & Wednesdays, 9 a.m.

**COMING UP** is a free community bulletin board. If you have a community event for a charity or non-profit organization that you'd like us to mention (AS SPACE PERMITS), email [Lvann@thecosmos.ca](mailto:Lvann@thecosmos.ca) or call 905-852-1900.

### Candidates go toe-to-toe, from page 1

Cyma Musarat asked O'Connell if she had been on the committee that shut down the justice committee's investigation into the SNC-Lavalin affair. O'Connell replied that she was never a member of the justice committee, but that she had filled in for

someone in her role as a parliamentary secretary during one day of the hearings. In response, Musarat emphatically claimed that O'Connell was "instrumental in shutting down that committee."

Cornelius Chisu also posed a question to O'Connell, asking her if she agreed with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's statement that "Canada is a post-national state with no core

identity." O'Connell replied that her party felt that diversity was fundamental to Canada's identity, and that when politicians "play on the division of fear and use it as a political strategy, we aren't working together on solving the bigger problems."

Forint took the opportunity to question the Conservative practice of offering tax credits for various programs, rather than funding programs directly and reducing costs to the taxpayers that way. He didn't receive a direct answer from Musarat, however, as she only outlined how federal transfers would increase by three per cent over each of next three years.

Rogers TV recorded the evening's proceedings, and will air the forum at a future date - the *Cosmos* will announce the time as soon as it is received.

The federal election is scheduled to be held on Monday, Oct. 21.

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### EVENTS

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