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OPINION

THE THREAT TO DEMOCRACY IS OUR APATHY

Next week we will stop to remember those Canadians who made the ultimate sacrifice in defending our freedom, democracy and our way of life. The world wars are now a distant memory, but we should continue to uphold those virtues that all soldiers fought for.

It has been reported that democracy is under threat from outside forces, usually from non-democratic countries like Russia, China and others. However, the real threat is self-inflicted, and it is called apathy.

In the 2016 presidential election in the United States, the most polarizing campaign in modern history, only 55 per cent of eligible voters cast a ballot, while the remaining 45 per cent or almost 100 million

people stayed on the sidelines. Canada is not immune, either. In the June provincial election only 58.4 per cent of eligible voters went to the polls. Again, this election featured a strong conservative party versus more leftist parties.

The apathetic trend continued in the municipal elections. In the City of Toronto voter turnout was 41 per cent this followed three months of continuous reporting in the most media-centric region of Canada of the province's decision to cut the size of their council from 47 to 25 members.

The Toronto Star reported that 22 municipalities in Ontario had no election at all as all the incumbents were acclaimed.

Closer to home voter turnout in Halton Hills was less than 30 per cent and voting has never been easier than now with limited wait time. Even if your name was not on the voter's list, within minutes voters were added and allowed to vote.

If we really want to honour those Canadians who stormed the ridge at Vimy, waded ashore at Juneau Beach or patrolled the streets in Afghanistan, all we need to do is take 15 minutes and exercise the freedom that they fought and died for.

DOUG PENRICE

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Georgetown Toyota would like to welcome to our team....



Jesse Eno

With over 15 years of experience, Jesse is a highly skilled and valued Detail Specialist. Jesse is the newest member to join the Georgetown Toyota Service Team, and takes pride in always striving to exceed customer expectations. Having spent over 2 decades living and working in Georgetown, he is excited to continue working in his hometown.



Davin Kivisto

As the newest addition to Georgetown Toyota's passionate Sales Team, Davin brings with him decades of experience in customer service and relations. Having spent his entire life in Georgetown, Davin looks forward to helping friends, family and neighbours alike discover their perfect vehicle.

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