



# Election Platform



# 2010



## CANDIDATES' QUESTIONS

We invited all candidates for the 2010 municipal election to answer the following questions:

Why are you running for council? What do you consider the most important issues facing the town? What are your goals for the next four years?



### Justin Altmann ~ Mayoral Candidate

Justin Altmann is a fourth generation Stouffville resident who lives and works on his family's farm on Bethesda Road. He ran as a candidate for Ward 2 in the 2006 municipal election.

#### Important Issues

The biggest issue is communication. As your representative I believe it is imperative to listen to public opinion, ask questions, listen to concerns and interact with the citizens and not just the developers. First and foremost we must curb indebtedness and create a financial plan with long and short-term goals,

bearing in mind that it is not an overnight remedy but an ongoing process.

#### Goals

Creation of a multi-faceted facility to accommodate our youth, adult and senior citizens in activities such as sports, exhibitions, arts and culture and other venues which can be centrally located. This would eliminate purchasing additional lands for separate functions as well sharing staff costs and encouraging families to share their needs under one roof.

To expand and develop recreation and leisure

services for all ages and abilities. To ensure tough fiscal responsibility, personal accountability, and to listen to residents before consulting expensive out of town firms. Millions of dollars have been spent on the redevelopment of the new town hall, Memorial Park, and the uncompleted creation of Bethesda Park. Such projects have taken place with little public input and have been over budget by millions of dollars, which is not fiscally responsible.



### Wayne Emmerson ~ Mayoral Incumbent

For more than 19 years, I have dedicated my life to ensuring that Whitchurch-Stouffville is an inviting and safe community in which to live, work, enjoy and visit. It has been a privilege to serve the residents of Whitchurch-Stouffville as mayor for 13 years.

Although we have accomplished a lot in the past four years, there is more to be done. We need to stay the course on all our debentures while maintaining one of the lowest residential, commercial and industrial tax rates in York Region.

New and upcoming projects are

- Completion of the projects already in progress
- Provide a new seniors' centre and a centre for our youth
- 24/7 Firefighters for all of Whitchurch-Stouffville Library expansion
- More police presence and a town-wide Neighbourhood Watch and Road Watch program
- Reduce ambulance response time
- Site for an indoor soccer facility and curling club

The developer of every new home, commercial and industrial building pays to the town a develop-

ment charge (DC) for roads and new facilities, for example

- Clipper Sports Complex - 100 percent DC funded
- Walt Smith Fire Station - 60 percent DC funded
- Operation Centre - 35 percent DC funded
- Revitalization of Main Street - 85 percent DC funded

The purchase of the new town office was a business decision. In four years, we will be paying less in a mortgage than we would be paying if we continued to rent.



### Sue Sherban ~ Mayoral Candidate

As a long time resident of this community and an experienced politician I have been working for positive change for nearly 18 years, first as an activist, then as a councillor and mayor. I am known for my hands-on approach, I get to the heart of the issues that residents care about and I make things happen. I am passionate about my community.

I realize a lot has happened over the last four years and not all for the better. When I left office we had zero debt, we had one of the lowest tax rates in York Region. I cannot say that is what is happening now. We need to put our community back on track.

I am determined to treat your money like it is my own. I will stop the over-spending and cut unnecessary expenses. At a time when the economy requires cutting back I pledge to do all that I can in my power to keep your tax dollars low.

I promise as your mayor I will also make it my commitment to take action in regards to your development concerns. I will not tolerate the abuse of the town's construction bylaws. The bylaw officers will be given the responsibility to enforce our construction procedures and policies morning and night.

I am committed to re-engaging the residents of

Whitchurch-Stouffville in the day-to-day operations of the municipality. I will reinstate the environmental committee, the heritage committee and the economic development committee to ensure proper planning. It is important that the hard working taxpayers of Whitchurch-Stouffville are directly involved in the future of our town.



### Christine Vlachos ~ Mayoral Candidate

I worked at Bell Canada for 13 years and was promoted four times. Sifton Group realtor for two years - winner of director's award. Certified Ontario Building Code - The House Part 9, Health and Safety and HVAC/Fire Protection, certified ballroom dance teacher, certified advance scuba diver. I am currently studying for my private pilot's licence.

#### Reasons for Running

I believe I can guide our community into unity. My nature is to help others, respect all people, cultures and beliefs, and not to judge others.

#### Important Issues

Budgets overspending vs necessities, misplacement of funds. Development cleaning up existing landfills, relocating or building new parks, water table, new crosswalks. Poverty help, shelter, feed, educate. Education and youth programs, implement new structures, develop self-esteem, support youth activity and art centre funding. Policing, zero tolerance of bullying, changes to Young Offenders Act, public record of repeat offenders. Transit, urban to town access for seniors, high school students, non drivers.

#### Goals

To accomplish as many necessary changes as possible within budget and timeline limitations. I will represent Stouffville with integrity, confidence, compassion and open communication. I hope to transfer my knowledge and expertise from previous work experiences crossing guard, designer, project manager, health and safety representative, real estate representative, volunteer fire fighter, office manager, project manager.



### Ken Ferdinands ~ Ward 1 Incumbent

I first ran for council in 2003 because I was asked to by my neighbours. I have been a councillor for seven years and feel I have made a significant contribution to the improvement of the municipality. I feel strongly that an effective voice is needed to address the issues surrounding rural residency and to ensure that a balanced level of municipal investment is made in the 80 square miles outside the urban area. As a resident of Ward 1 for 35 years, I am very familiar with matters

that impact the residents.

The most important issue for the majority of residents is the management of growth.

The agenda for the next four years has a great deal to do with what was accomplished in the four previous years. In 2006 the town was still struggling with significant infrastructure deficits ranging from a Main Street project that was a source of massive frustration to the re-development of the works yard site to an

arena. With the perseverance of the majority of council these significant projects were completed.

My goal will be to manage our many assets, including 19 on the Park and the museum, to best serve the needs of the community, an evolving process that could include the rationalization of services and program reviews.