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Election: Renewal in NK, Revamp in Coe Hill

By Peter Hughes

Here are the detailed results of the municipal election in North Kawartha.

Turnout: 3,064 (45.3%) of 6,762 electors voted between October 9 and 22 in this election.

Office of the Mayor

Carolyn Amyotte 1,650 (54.4%)
Rick Woodcock 1,382 (45.6%)
Total 3,064, Abstained 32 (1.0%)

Office of the Deputy Mayor

Jim Whelan 1,803 (60.8%)
Doug Hutton 1,162 (39.2%)
Total 3,064, Abstained 99 (3.2%)

Councillor at Large

Roman Miszuk 1,492 (52.1%)
Tim Powell 1,370 (47.9%)
Total 3,064, Abstained 202 (6.6%)

Councillor Ward 1

Jim O'Shea (acclaimed)

Councillor Ward 2

Colin McLellan 802 (55.2%)
Dave Wease 651 (44.8%)
Total 1,784, Abstained 331 (18.6%)

Congratulations to NK's new mayor, Carolyn Amyotte, who served fifteen years on council in preparation for her role as mayor. Congrats to Miszuk on being re-elected, O'Shea for being acclaimed and Colin McLellan on his success. Also, we appreciate the service of the past council, led by Rick Woodcock and Doug Hutton, and we also appreciate the attempts by Tim Powell

and Dave Wease, who challenged for council seats. It's disappointing, but not surprising to see that a majority of potential voters (55%) did not participate – despite the fact that all they had to do was *pick-up the phone*.

NK's new Deputy Mayor has fourteen years of experience on council – as Deputy Reeve, Reeve and then Mayor. With Amyotte in the driver's seat and Whelan in a secondary role, we hope to see a benevolent, calm and financially frugal council who willingly embrace all of the challenges of office – wherever they come from.

With a new mayor, an experienced deputy mayor and only one new councillor, North Kawartha Council is well positioned for the yet un-announced, but likely significant changes which will be coming down from Ontario's government in the next few years. Amyotte and Whelan served on council when they arranged for the developments of the new township offices and the NKCC. They have a good track record of working well with other levels of government, but considering the financial challenges facing the Province, it may be difficult for any council to avoid increased property or other new taxes to help fund on-going costs and new infrastructure needs. Especially when we learn what new expenditures are downloaded from the Ontario government who, in an example of their myopic demagoguery, decided to spend \$3 billion dollars because they don't believe-in and won't even utter the words "climate change". If you thought the previous government was bad for their gas plant fiasco then what do you think of Ford's "wave of his hand" to spend the equivalent of ten gas-plant fiascos to un-do the carbon-tax?

Regardless, we all have great hopes for the new council to do a fine job with what they have and with what the future brings.

Please see Election Results on page 3.



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