

SENIOR SCAPE: Politicians Support Seniors

Our Politicians Support Seniors in Aurora

By Jim L. Abram

It's hard to decide where to park your cart politically these days. Am I ?right?? Am I ?left?? Am I ?centre?? The lines are so blurred that I find it hard to find my political pigeon hole.

When I think of politics I am more prone to think of pigeon poop, but that is not new thinking. Therefore, I've decided to create a new definition for my political affiliation. I thought about it for a short time and I think I came up with the best definition for how to categorize myself politically.

After talking to our good and qualified representatives: Mayor, MPP and MP, I arrived upon the answer. ?I am Jim?. Bottom line: ?Do your own thinking?. But YOUR politicians like it or not, are a valuable resource YOU have elected to represent YOU.

I found, while meeting with our politicians representing Aurora that they ran for political office with the best of intentions and discovered they do possess surprisingly good listening skills. I found that the enlightened self interest that often characterizing politicians has somehow eluded our current leaders representing Aurora. These are very nice people, no matter what party you may give your allegiance to.

According to Aurora Mayor, Geoff Dawe, the goal of Aurora Town Council is to make Aurora the best place in which to be and grow older, promoting quality of life in livable communities for an aging community.

Current planning initiatives include affordable housing alternatives attractive to seniors in pedestrian-friendly communities with ?seniors engineered? condos, townhouses and lofts. According to Mayor Dawe, the Aurora strives to increase the delivery and awareness of programs available to older adults. The Mayor and Council give much credit to Karie Papillon (Aurora Seniors Coordinator) and all of the town staff and community volunteers who deliver services to seniors in Aurora.

Newmarket-Aurora MPP Frank Klees stated that we all owe so very much to our seniors. This town and this province are what they are due to the hard work, dedication and continued contribution of our seniors.

Frank has dedicated a good part of his public life in service to seniors. I personally have seen many examples of his leadership in the provincial areas of housing, health care and long term care for the elderly. These responsibilities he holds close to his heart as he has come across so many situations where people have relied on his advocacy to help them through the difficulties involved in securing adequate support services.

Mr. Klees has and continues to show leadership in helping families by supporting and promoting long term care homes locally in Aurora and optimizing seniors' service levels at Southlake hospital.

Frank encourages you to call him any time at his constituency office whether you have a question about a particular issue or need assistance with social services or some other issue related to the Provincial Government or its agencies.

Newmarket-Aurora MP Lois Brown expressed her many thank to seniors for their contributions toward building their families, communities, workplaces and country.

?Seniors play an important role in Newmarket-Aurora and across Canada,? said Ms. Brown. ?They have shaped our country, raised a generation and fought for our rights and freedoms. Today, they continue to share their knowledge, time and expertise and are vibrant, powerful and influential mentors and leaders.? Lois Brown regularly visits the Seniors' Centre as well as many of the seniors' Residences in Aurora to listen to and act on the concerns of Aurora seniors.

ASA Board of Directors Elections now on!

The five nominees for the 2013 ASA Board of Directors are Jim Abram, Ron Coe, Clifford Davies, Louise Miller and Don Stevenson. Nominees' profiles and pictures are on display the Centre and on the ASA website. Elections by ballot begin May 6 and run through May 17. All eligible ASA members are encouraged to vote ? taking part in the process allows you to help determine your Board of Directors.

Come on and Hear!

Come and visit the Aurora Seniors Centre on Saturday, May 25 at 2:30 p.m. to ?Come on and Hear? the Evergreen Spring Concert. Tickets are only \$5 and children are free.

Let Us Entertain You!

The Silver Stars Drama club invites you and your families to this great and exciting show featuring singers, comedians, actors and musicians on Friday, May 10 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5 each and include refreshments. Tickets are now on sale at the Aurora Seniors' Centre.

Today's word of advice: ?Think for yourself, you've earned it.?

For more information on the Aurora Seniors' Centre and all it has to offer, drop by 90 John West Way, visit the web site www.auroraseniors.ca, email auroraseniors@rogers.com or call 905-726-4767 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday to Friday.