



Proven Leadership for a Sustainable Future in the Town of The Blue Mountains



ISSUE 2: September 13, 2018

Banks

Blue Mountain
Village

Camperdown

Castle Glen
Estates

Christie Beach

Clarksburg

Craigleith

Duncan

Gibraltar

Heathcote

Kolapore

Little Germany

Lora Bay

Ravenna

Redwing

Slabtown

Swiss
Meadows

Thornbury

Victoria
Corners

Widening Highway 26 to five lanes cannot happen!

There's a consensus among all sixteen candidates, but we must find sound alternative solutions to offer. Development, housing and tourism-related growth continue to increase traffic. A recent study predicts that 25,000 cars per day will cross the Town of The Blue Mountains. Most of us have already experienced a standstill at Thornbury Bridge, observed pedestrians crossing at Craigleith or over the highway on the Georgian Trail. We've seen children waiting to dart across Hwy 26 which lacks crosswalks, signage or lights. Near misses between motorists, cyclists and farm vehicles, accidents and detours for emergencies, police investigations and toxic cleanups are not uncommon. People whose driveways connect directly to Hwy 26 (over 400 homes) struggle with safe access and will be further impacted by expropriation to widen Hwy 26, not to mention the serious impact upon our environment, our shoreline, and our economic development.

As Your Deputy Mayor,

I will make finding an evidenced-based solution a priority. I will build relationships across Municipal, County and Provincial lines to achieve several shared goals, including an **Integrated Roads Strategy** based on growth projections. We have Provincial (MTO), County and Municipal roads. Our goal is a safe, efficient network of well-maintained roads that serve the diverse needs of our community most economically for taxpayers.

MTO's goal is to move traffic across East (Barrie) to West (Owen Sound) as efficiently as possible. Before widening Hwy 26 MTO must complete an **Environmental Assessment** that will collect data and give us an opportunity for input. MTO will consider facts, not opinions or emotions. (For example: In August MTO turned down a request for reduced speed limits west of Landsdown.)

We need data to show them that their goals, moving east-west traffic quickly, can be achieved without impacting negatively on what we value in the Town of the Blue Mountains. I would move to revisit TBM's engagement of neighboring municipalities to identify a viable bypass with posted 'Alternate Route' wayfinding signs, road counts, trucking capacity measures on steeper inclines, etc. This would allow us to collect data to demonstrate that bypass options to widening Hwy 26 should be seriously considered. I will work with staff, community experts and the Georgian Shores Drive Preservation Association to ensure timely communications and to capitalize on the groundswell of energy that already exists. Together, we will find a solution that works best for everyone. *That's integrity!*

Next Issue: Attainable Housing

September 20, 2018

**On October 12 – 22, vote by phone or on-line for
VOTE FOR ODETTE BARTNICKI**

Visit Odette's website to learn more: <https://www.odetteforcounciltbm.com>

Contact Odette at: (705) 888-8462

email: odetteforcouncil@icloud.com

<https://www.facebook.com/odettetbm/>



September 13, 2018