



News from Regional Councillor Dies & Councillor Bower

March 2026



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Committees

- Durham Region Health & Social Services
- Toronto & Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)
- Ajax Homelessness Task Force
- Ontario Downtown Councillors

Committees

- PARA Marine Search & Rescue
- Ajax Pickering Road Watch
- Ajax Homelessness Task Force
- Ontario Downtown Councillors

Hello Ward 3! We're excited to share our spring newsletter with you. This edition features information about erosion control on our waterfront, the Durham Non-Profit Housing Corp (DRNPHC) & Two Steps Homes, PARA SAR's annual review, a new Councillor committee group and the Town's new Planning Application Dashboard.

Mark your calendar for our upcoming Ward 3 community meetings on March 30 and April 27- stay tuned for more details. As always, we are proud to be your Councillors and look forward to seeing you soon. Happy reading!



The Ajax waterfront is a popular destination for residents and visitors. Protection of the waterfront is important, as erosion of the shoreline has progressed resulting in the loss of 1.25 acres of parkland since 2002.

Across the 7 km of shoreline, there are areas experiencing varying degrees of erosion which has been studied by the TRCA.

The TRCA commenced work in January 2026 on a section of the shoreline, thanks to funding received through the Canada Water Agency. This funding supports 350 m of shoreline protection work, placing tonnes of boulders and cobblestones where natural wave action will set them in place providing erosion protection. Restoration of the park will occur after construction is completed in the summer.



Durham Region Non-Profit Housing Corporation (DRNPHC) and Two Steps Home organized a bus tour for service providers, volunteers and supporters to visit Peterborough's successful Tiny Homes Cabin Community. This transitional housing project, consisting of

50 units, has been operating effectively since November 2023.

Both Two Steps Home and DRNPHC remain committed to establishing similar cabin communities in Durham and are working closely with the Region to identify suitable locations.

Each of Peterborough's 50 tiny homes is equipped with electricity, heating, cooling, and essential furnishings, including a small fridge, bed, and bedding. Additional amenities - such as washrooms, showers and a shared building with kitchen and community space are provided on-site as well.

This first step toward independent cabin living is essential for helping individuals develop the skills needed for a successful transition to permanent housing. It represents the beginning of a supported pathway toward stability and independence.

As a non-profit housing provider, DRNPHC looks forward to offering ongoing support to residents to ensure a successful transition in their final step toward a permanent home.



PARA Marine Search & Rescue held its Search & Rescue (SAR) Tasking Review at the end of January, an annual event where members discuss last season's taskings and look ahead to the year to come. There were 28 taskings in 2025 involving things such as engine fire, towing, lost paddleboarders, missing sailors, damaged vessels and more. If you're looking for an exciting volunteer opportunity, check out their website at paramarinesar.ca.

Your Ward 3 Councillors are participating in a new committee created specifically for Ontario downtown councillors. With representation from 28 municipalities, the group survey revealed the top 10 issues faced in our downtowns:

Highest Ranking

- Community safety
- Cleanliness
- Crime
- Bike safety

Most Polarizing

- Affordable housing
- Homelessness

Most Consistent

- Pedestrian safety
- Growth management
- Vacant or derelict buildings

The newly formed committee will operate on the values of collaboration and knowledge sharing, solution-oriented action and equity and inclusion. Our mission is, *“We advocate for practical, collaborative, and equity centred solutions that strengthen downtowns across the province and support the people who live, work, and gather in them.”*

The committee meets every other month, and we are hoping to participate in the 2026 conferences of the Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO) and Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). Stay tuned for more information, including a new website and committee logo!



Have you checked out the Town’s new Planning Application Dashboard?

The Dashboard includes:

- A search tool where you can look up applications by property address, file number, proposed land use, type of application or year.
- An interactive map and tally that displays where applications are located and allows you to filter by status, land use, application type or ward, and see dynamic charts and counts of applications, proposed residential units and non-residential floor area.
- Visit the Dashboard at ajax.ca/PlanningApplicationDashboard.



2026 Meeting Schedule*

General Government Committee

April 13 | 1 p.m.

Council

April 20 | 1 p.m.

Community Affairs & Planning

May 4 | 1 p.m.

General Government Committee

May 11 | 1 p.m.

Council

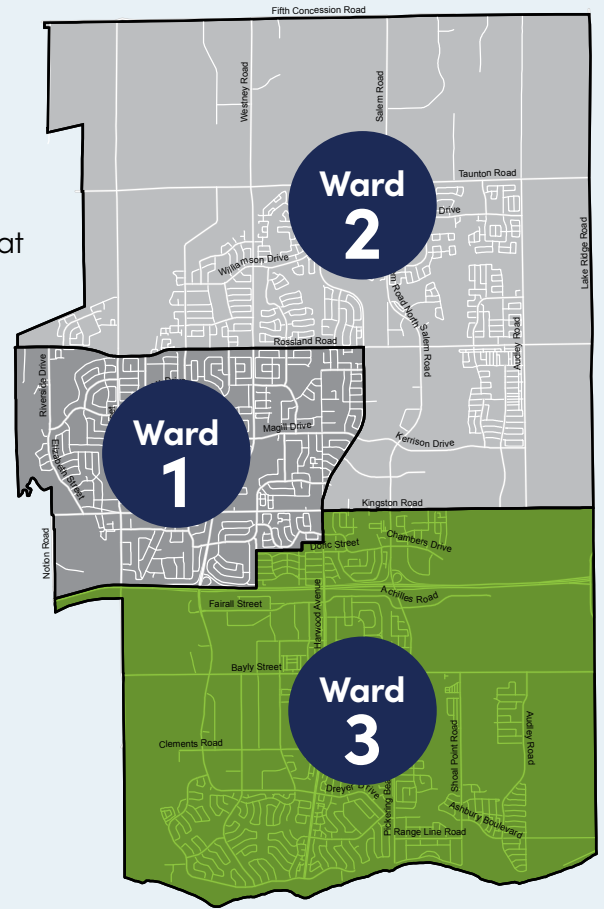
May 19 | 1 p.m.

For more information and to view agendas, visit ajax.ca/Meetings.

*Dates subject to change.

What's my ward?

Find out what ward you live in by using our interactive map at ajax.ca/MyWard.



2026 Municipal and School Board Elections

Internet and Telephone Voting in the Town's 2026 Municipal and School Board Elections takes place from October 19 - 26, 2026.

The Town's dedicated election site will be available beginning April 2026 at ajax.ca/Vote.

For further information, contact election@ajax.ca.

HeyJAX Your requests in one place!

HeyJAX is now available - the Town's new mobile-friendly resident feedback and reporting tool. It's an easy way to reach the Town, report and track inquiries and service requests from start to finish.

Check it out at www.heyjax.ca



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