



Ward 7

Working with you ...

COUNCILLOR
John Brassard

Message from Councillor Brassard

When I ran for Council to represent Ward 7, part of my commitment to you was to ensure that I would communicate regularly about what is happening both within the Ward and around the City. As part of that strategy, I initiated a newsletter last year and used the summer break at Council to visit roughly 1000 homes to speak directly with homeowners and business owners while at the same time handing out the newsletters. By far the most effective means of communicating for me has been the www.johnbrassard.com website. Since the site was launched shortly after the election, it has received thousands of hits from residents seeking information and more impressively, hundreds of people have signed up to receive e-mail updates from me direct to their desktop.

Once again this year, I plan on using the summer break of Council to meet with as many residents as I can to discuss the issues affecting them and how I can be the voice for those issues at the Council table. I believe it's fundamentally important that you shouldn't only see me at election time looking for your votes, but rather I should be earning your vote based on the representation you receive when it's not an election year. I continue to be as attentive as I can by returning e-mails and phone calls in a timely manner because that's what I would expect from my Councillor.

Thanks as always for your support and I look forward to seeing as many residents of Ward 7 as possible over the summer and be safe.

Councillor, Ward 7
City of Barrie

The City of
BARRIE

Councillor John Brassard

Please feel free to contact me anytime.

phone: (705) 739-4217 ext: 4217

e-mail: jbrassard@barrie.ca

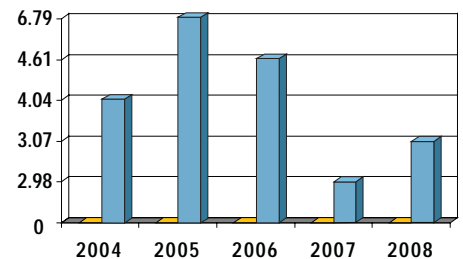
website: www.johnbrassard.com

mailing address: 70 Collier Street, Barrie ON L4M 4T5

FINANCIAL: Tax increase limited to 3.07 % and Finance Committee of Council created

As a result of changes to the budget process initiated by Councillor Brassard and Councillor Lehman and supported by Council, we were able to limit the tax increase to 3.07 % inspite of a \$1.1 billion dollar commitment to infrastructure over the next ten years. Councillor Brassard was also appointed to the Finance Committee of Council whose mandate is to provide direction to City Staff on all finance and budget related matters.

Comparison Chart from 2003 to Present



COMMUNITY: Holly Recreation Centre opens in Ward 7

The City of Barrie opened the New Holly Recreation Centre in Ward 7 on January 5, 2008. This \$32.5 million investment is already paying dividends by bringing City programs closer to area residents. The Holly Rec Centre is by all accounts a facility that people are proud of judging by the comments I've received



Barrie M.P.P. and Minister of Culture Aileen Carroll, Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty and Ward 7 Councillor John Brassard at the RVH Radiation Treatment Centre opening on April 17, 2008

SUMMER 2008

SAFETY: More Police Officers, More Firefighters, means a safer Community

Barrie Council approved the hiring of 8 more Police Officers and 12 more Firefighters for 2008 with an additional 12 Firefighters to be hired in 2009. As Chair of the Master Fire Plan Committee, Ward 7 Councillor John Brassard is also working to improve the level of service for the Ward and the City including the need for a Fire Station in Ward 7 to enhance response times.



Ward 7 Councillor and Chair of Community Services John Brassard (middle left) attended the graduation ceremony for 14 new recruits of the Barrie Fire and Emergency Services on June 27, 2008.

CITY RELATED ISSUES: This is how your Ward Councillor has been representing you on City wide issues

ETHANOL PLANT:

Supported the Interim Control By-Law enacted by Council. I also drafted a resolution and received Council support asking the Province to create a policy statement on proper locations for Alternative Fuels, including Ethanol Plants other than in Urban settings

LARGE PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE:

We can't afford it given the other priorities that the City has with respect to infrastructure needs and it's contrary to the Cultural Plan adopted by Council. I supported the smaller venue at considerably less cost to taxpayers called for in the Cultural Plan.

GO-TRAIN WHISTLE STUDY:

Voted against spending \$10,000 to study this further.

BARRIE-INNISFIL NEGOTIATIONS:

One of three members of Council involved in the negotiations with Innisfil to expand our boundaries for more employment lands. Has met on numerous occasions with Provincial Ministers to put forward Barrie's agenda with the Committee.

DEVELOPMENT CHARGES:

Voted in favour of a discount for Industrial Development to encourage job creation in the Industrial sector but voted against a Retail development discount because it shifts the burden of tax for growth related projects like roads and sewers from the retail developer to the residential taxpayer.

HOTEL AND CONVENTION CENTRE:

Voted in favour of the proposed Hotel and Convention Centre downtown.

LEADERSHIP AT CITY HALL:

Voted in favour of extending the contract of our City Administrator, Mr. Jon Babulic until 2011 and was involved in the hiring of the new General Manager of Community Services, the Director of Engineering, and the Fire Chief.

CHAIR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE:

Along with other members of the Community Services Committee a corporate wide Waste Reduction Strategy was introduced so that the City of Barrie can show leadership in the area of waste management and improve on our overall diversion efforts by extending the life of our landfill. I also worked with staff to develop the City's Graffiti Strategy.

WARD RELATED ISSUES: Here's what John Brassard has been doing in Ward 7

- Returns all phone calls and e-mails in a timely manner.
- Have had regular meetings with the Ward 7 Ratepayers Association to discuss the issues affecting Ward 7.
- Barriers to restrict ATV's have been installed throughout the Ward stopping access to the Ardagh Bluffs and to the County Forest off Loughheed.
- A 4-way stop was installed at Brucker and Emms.
- Had a portable speed sign installed on Mapleton between Veterans and Essa to curb speeding in that section.
- Continually ensuring that graffiti is removed as soon as possible after it is reported.
- Has met with Parent Councils and Principals of elementary schools to discuss issues. As a result of those discussions City Staff met with School Board representatives to address the issue of parking in and around schools including the potential to use City lots adjacent to those schools in the winter.
- Working toward a solution of the speed zone on Essa Rd. south of Mapleview.
- Pathway Safety Barriers. City staff are now in the process of putting in barriers on City pathways within the Ward so that children on bikes have to slow down when they come close to a roadway.
- Has had several home meetings with residents who have had concerns regarding issues in their neighbourhoods and has worked to resolve them directly.
- Had speed limit signs placed on Mapleview Drive.
- Assisting with development related issues for the Industrial areas within the Ward including the attraction of new Industry and business to Ward 7.
- Worked with residents to stop the Simcoe County School Board from building a practice field on environmentally sensitive forest at Bear Creek Secondary School.
- Attended numerous business openings including Coras, and the new L.C.B.O on Bryne Drive.



Ward 7 Councillor John Brassard judged the public speaking contest at St. Bernadette School in Ward 7 and is pictured here with all the participants.



Ward 7 Councillor John Brassard visited Roberta Place on Essa Rd. December 10, 2007 to talk about City issues with residents including the widening of Essa Rd. and placing a bus shelter outside the residence.

You're invited to attend the 1st Ward 7 Community BBQ on Saturday, September 13, 2008 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Holly Community Centre.

... together we make a difference