



MILTON WARD 1 ELECTION EDITION

KRISTINA TESSER DERKSEN

WARD ONE LOCAL TOWN COUNCILLOR

OCTOBER 2022

VOLUME 01 | ISSUE 02

Councillor Spotlight

I'm Kristina Tesser Derksen, your Ward 1 local councillor since 2018. I am a born-and-raised Miltonian, wife, mother, lawyer, funeral director, and community member. I sit on the Board of Directors of Milton Public Library, Milton Chamber of Commerce, Milton Downtown Business Improvement Area, and Townsend Smith Hospice Foundation. I am a member of the Campbellville Community Association, Nassagaweya Community Consultation Committee, Executive member of the Canadian Federation of University Women, and am Chair of the Townsend Smith Fundraising Committee, as well as involved with a number of professional associations. I'm always open to hearing from you. You can reach me at

905-691-8988 (text or call) or kristina.tesserderksen@milton.ca.

Thanks for reading and see you around town and country!

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Dear Neighbours

You've heard it before: democracy only works when people participate. On Monday October 24th, you have the chance to be part of the democratic process and make your voice count by participating in our municipal elections.

I can speak first-hand about the power of voting – after all, the reason I am your Councillor is because engaged citizens took the time to cast their votes and support me as the candidate that they related to best, and in whom they had the most confidence. It's a responsibility and honour that I have not taken for granted at any moment.

When you vote, you will have the option to vote for several different positions: Regional Chair, Mayor, Local Councillor (my current position), and School Board Trustees for English Separate, English Public, and French Separate and French Public. The Regional Councillor position was acclaimed (i.e. no one ran against the current councillor) with Colin Best retaining the role. Congratulations Colin!

Being an elected official can be a challenging job trying to balance the interests and needs (sometimes conflicting) of **all residents** – not just voters! The more you are involved, the easier it is for your elected representative to work for you!

Take advantage of the early voting dates and locations detailed on page 2. Make a plan, commit the time, and vote!

Take care,

Kristina

Council Notes

Election Time

The last regular meeting of council was held on Monday, September 12th. Once the election phase begins, big decisions are put on hold and shifted into the next term, which begins after the election, to be decided by the newly elected council. The first meeting of the new Council will occur in December and budget deliberations will begin shortly thereafter, wrapping up before Holiday Season.

Election information is available on the Town's website:

<https://www.milton.ca/en/town-hall/elections.aspx>

2023 Budget Decision Coming this December

The budget report was presented to Council in September. Financial pressures resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and higher-than-normal inflation have had an effect on the budget, naturally. To maintain current services, a tax increase of \$33.73 per year (per \$100,000 of property value, as assessed by the province) would be required. This is a 12.4% increase. So, if taxes are raised by 12.4%, and your house is assessed at a value of \$1 million (provincial MPAC assessment - your market value would be significantly higher) then your property taxes would increase by \$337.30 per year. When regional and school taxes are added, the total increase would be \$42.08 per \$100,000 of assessed value (so, \$420.08 per year in the above example).

Councils have always worked with staff and our treasurer to find ways to reduce the burden on taxpayers by scaling back wherever possible without greatly sacrificing the services people rely on. More information on the budget process is available here:

<https://www.milton.ca/en/town-hall/budget-engagement.aspx>

Advance Voting

Advance polls are locations where people can vote before Election Day. All too often, people make plans to “get out and vote” on election day, but inevitably get stuck at work late, busy finishing dinner, or some other urgent matter needs attention and before you know it, the polls have closed and you missed your opportunity to vote. Advance polls are the answer to this problem!

Pick your date and time from the table below, check the closest location, and bring your Voter’s Card (received in the mail) and ID to any one of the polls listed. (If you are missing your Voter’s Card, just bring acceptable ID with you).

Visit the Town’s website for more info on Advance Polls:
<https://www.milton.ca/en/town-hall/for-voters.aspx>

VOTER’S CARDS

Voter’s Cards (also known as Voter Notification Cards) were mailed out and should be in your mailbox by October 7th. Bring this card with you to your polling location.

You do not need your Voter’s Card in order to vote, though! If you did not receive it, or lost it, you can still attend at *any* advanced polling location between October 10th and 16th, or to your *designated polling location only on Election Day* (October 24th) with appropriate ID or document that shows your name and address. You can review the ID list [here](https://www.elections.on.ca/en/voting-in-ontario/id-requirements-for-voting.html#accordionIDvote):
<https://www.elections.on.ca/en/voting-in-ontario/id-requirements-for-voting.html#accordionIDvote>



Can’t Vote in Person?

Did you know you can still vote even if you are not present or are unable to physically attend a polling station?

If you cannot attend a physical polling location, you can appoint someone to vote for you by proxy. It’s a simple process. Learn more here:
<https://www.milton.ca/en/town-hall/for-voters.aspx#Vote-by-proxy>

You can speak to our election staff by completing the contact form
<https://forms.milton.ca/ContactUs/Elections> or calling 905-878-7252 ext. 2109

Milton Early Voting Schedule

Oct 10-14 (10AM-6PM)
Hugh Foster Hall

Wednesday Oct 12 (10AM-6PM)
Nassagaweya Tennis Centre

Saturday Oct 15 (10AM-6PM)
Sunday Oct 16 (10AM-5PM)
Nassagaweya Tennis Centre
Beaty Branch Library
Milton Sports Centre
Milton Mall

Vote at any of these locations during any of the times noted

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