

## **An Open Letter to the Mayor of Cobourg**

Dear Mayor-in-leaving Brocanier:

We watched your farewell address to the Cobourg Town Council on September 30, 2018 with considerable interest and then growing concern. Your serial bullying and abuse of the power inherent in your position was once again in full view.

Having said that, your tirade was also strangely satisfying. It may strike you as odd but we believe that your misplaced criticism of the Cobourg Taxpayers Association was actually a back-handed compliment.

What you failed to appreciate is that your criticism of our association's advocacy on behalf of concerned residents and voters of Cobourg was, in fact, a ringing endorsement of the effectiveness of our efforts. Had we not been effective you would have simply ignored us.

Our many campaigns to inform the residents of Cobourg about important matters affecting cost-effectiveness of our local government and the livability and overall quality of life in our town have clearly had an impact. They will continue to do so as we collaboratively work with the Council-elect. Indeed, we are already pursuing several well-received initiatives in this regard.

Your criticism of the concerned Cobourg residents with whom you disagree, in the forum of an official Council meeting, constitutes a cowardly breach of the Code of Conduct for Council Members. Suggesting that those with a different vision for Cobourg "should just leave" is completely unacceptable. You over-stepped the bounds of civility and respect knowing that, because this was the last official session of Council, a complaint to the Integrity Commissioner would not be possible. Nevertheless, we reserve our rights to redress this issue.

Your behaviour has caused us to redouble our resolve to be a valuable resource for the people of Cobourg. And we sincerely thank you for that.

Yours truly,

Lydia Smith –President  
Dennis Nabieszko – Secretary  
Bryan Lambert – Treasurer  
Ken Strauss – Director  
Ted Williams - Director