



2026 Municipal and School Board Election

Candidate Biographies: Deputy Mayor



Deb Doherty

Deb Doherty is serving her fourth term on Collingwood Town Council. She is currently a member of the Town of Collingwood's Affordable Housing Task Force and was a member of the Covid Economic Recovery Task Force during the previous term of Council. She was elected to the Board of Directors of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), where she also chaired the Small Urban Caucus. In addition, she was a member of the Executive of OSUM (Ontario Small Urban Municipalities).

Locally, Deb is a Director of the Blue Mountain Watershed Trust Foundation and also served as President of the Collingwood Chamber of Commerce for 2 years.

As part of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Partnership for Municipal Innovation – Women in Local Leadership initiative, Deb travelled to Ghana to collaborate with municipal leaders and share best practices in local governance, leadership, and community development.

She has been featured as a panelist on affordable housing at a number of provincial conferences. Deb has been recognized by the Share the Road Cycling Coalition as a leader in advocacy for active transportation and has been a speaker at their annual Ontario Bike Summit on several occasions.

Before dedicating herself to municipal leadership, Deb enjoyed a successful career in the private sector. She was an Advertising Account Manager with Corus Entertainment for 20 years before retiring in 2020. Earlier in her career, she founded Duncan's Café in Collingwood, which she owned and operated for a decade before selling it in 1998.

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Chris Potts

I am a proud husband to my wife, Jennifer, and father of three. I was born and raised in Collingwood, where I have spent my life living, working, volunteering, and raising my family. My family has called Collingwood home since the late 1800s.

I spent 12 years working for the Town of Collingwood in the Public Works Department, with experience in infrastructure, winter operations, and general maintenance. I also served as a Health and Safety Representative and Vice President of CUPE Local 1217. Today, I own and operate a local business, giving me experience as an entrepreneur and small business owner.

I have always been actively involved in our community. I have coached minor sports and served as President of both Collingwood Minor Hockey and Nottawa Minor Fastball. I have also served on the Collingwood Sports Hall of Fame Board of Directors and the Collingwood BIA Board.

Since 2022, I have had the privilege of serving on Collingwood Town Council. During my time on Council, I have worked on issues ranging from transit and accessibility to community services and local businesses. I have worked to improve transit services, strengthen community supports, and build a stronger relationship between the Town and the BIA.

Collingwood isn't just where I live. It's where I have built my life, raised my family, developed lasting relationships, and spent many years working and volunteering. I have seen Collingwood grow and change considerably, and I am proud of my years of service and involvement in the community I call home.

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