

## Why Elect Richard Bradley to Minden Hills Council in Ward 1?

### Here's a few reasons why:

Over the past few years life in Minden has not been easy. We have endured 2 devastating floods, had our Service Ontario under threat of closure and most recently had to fight to save our only licensed daycare centre from closure on only 5 days notice. We have experienced the challenges of a past council that seemed to operate without respect for the electorate or the vital staff that make Minden work on a day to day basis. I have been on the front lines of



the efforts to Save Service Ontario, which we did, to Save the Daycare centre, which we did and when electoral change was needed to shift the direction of council I did what I could, with the help of others, to bring to light the untenable situation that had developed within our Minden Hills. I have asked our new Premier Doug Ford to help Minden change the mandate of the Trent/Severn water way to flood avoidance and mitigation to be the primary goal and not to make sure the waterway remains navigable from early May to late October. Doug Ford gave me his word that he would help Minden, by putting pressure on the Federal Government, to change the mandate so that our managed waterway remains one of our greatest assets and not something we fear every spring.

For responsible representation that treats you with respect, dignity and civility please elect Richard Bradley for Minden Hills Ward 1

## MOVING FORWARD FOR ALL OF US THAT HAVE A STAKE IN MINDEN HILLS:

We all have a role to play in moving Minden Hills forward. We need to establish our priorities for the short, medium and long term through consultation. As a property owner you need to participate and make sure that your voice is heard. We have all invested significant time and money in being a part of this community, a community that has proven itself to be #MINDENSTRONG over and over again.

### HEALTHCARE (HHHS)

I suggest that a priority we should almost all agree on is the importance of keeping our Minden Hospital Emergency Department open 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. As the Province searches for efficiencies I believe that must clearly communicate through our MPP that there is nothing we are willing to trade away for any of our community health care services and in fact we feel we need more of them throughout Minden Hills and Haliburton County.

### HOW CAN YOU HELP ME HELP YOU?

Spread the word, pass this pamphlet to someone else. Join me on Facebook @RichardBradleyForMindenHillsWard1 and share the page with your social media friends. Donate to the campaign if you wish to and are able. (Please contact me directly and I will explain the regulations under the Municipal Act.) Request a lawn sign or more pamphlets. Invite me to speak to a group. (I will be trying to avoid scheduling events on Sundays to enable myself and others to attend their religious services.)

**Thank you for reading this pamphlet and please Elect Richard Bradley For Minden Hills Council in Ward 1**

## Elect Richard Bradley For Minden Hills Council Ward 1

***Standing up for Minden, Standing Up For You!***

**"I am asking for your vote so I can advocate for you, represent you, be responsible, transparent and accountable to you!"**

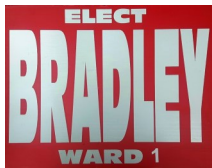
**- Richard Bradley**



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## TAXES, TAXES, TAXES!

One of life's certainties is taxes, the other I am not going to address here. While another certainty seems to be that taxes never go down, at the municipal level there is some control over how much they go up. The reality about Minden is we are a relatively small community of both full-time and seasonal residents. However, regardless of how many days you spend in and around Minden, you own your property 365 days of the year and have exactly the same rights, privileges and responsibilities as everyone else and the Minden Council must reciprocate by being equally responsible to everyone when it comes to taxes and fees for Municipal services. I believe that a reasonable target for tax increases should be the current rate of inflation. That should provide enough to keep the Municipality operating year to year. This year, partially due to the new Fire Hall on Highway 35 and other factors, the tax increase was much higher than inflation. When the community chooses to make such improvements a priority with the understanding that such things cost money; taxes will continue to rise faster than just the inflationary pressures dictate. The Provincial Government, through legislative, regulation and/or policy changes can also be a factor that affects Municipal tax increases. I believe Minden Council needs to respect all tax payers by accurately reporting the reasons for tax increases while taking advantage of any/all opportunities to access funding from both the Federal and Provincial Governments. Tax increases may be a certainty, but they should be fair and provide good value to all of us that pay them.



## WATER, WATER, WATER!

Water. It is the very essence of our lives, we drink it, cook with it, bathe in it, play in it or on it whether it be in liquid or frozen form. Sometimes we do not have enough of it, sometimes we have too much of it. Water can sprinkle down like mist or drizzle or it can fall in a torrent and sometimes, as it has recently, fall in the form of hail and cause significant damage. In winter we get all manner of precipitation from flurries to blizzards and all kinds in between but sometimes we receive an ice storm of freezing rain that trims our trees and may also contribute to injuries or property damage. One of the most interesting things about the centre of Minden is that water runs right through it. While we are a part of the feeder system for the Trent/Severn waterway, which means the river is part of a managed water system we are also affected by the Orillia Power Generation Dam. This means that one system is controlling water for the Trent, the other system is adjusting the flow and levels based on when it is most lucrative to generate electricity. As a result our river that is controlled by two different systems is not always deep enough for our liking. Imagine that frustration that one must feel if you were to head out for a boat ride down the river only to find that you are unable to get home due to the decreasing level of the water or worse if you have made the discovery after damaging your boat or motor on a rock or other obstruction. We need to find a balance with both systems so our managed waterway remains controlled and navigable so that whatever your pleasure you are going to be able to pursue it and still be able to get back to the dock. Another water related issue is the Municipal water system and its rates. The users of the system must pay for the system by law, however this has resulted in some residents paying



more for their water than they do their property taxes. I believe a full review of the system needs to be done to keep the costs as reasonable as possible while keeping the water safe and abiding by all of the Provincial Regulations.

## HIGHWAY 35 SAFETY!

Highway 35, once referred to as the bypass of downtown, it has increasingly become the centre of town. Highway 35 is also the designated route for oversized loads that will not fit under the bridges that exist on other highways from or to the north. This brings a number of large and tall vehicles that have to share the road with our increasing traffic of vehicles and pedestrians. So, now we have the centre of town with a 70 km speed limit and no sidewalks and in winter the road gets thinner due to the snow plowed up to the guard rails. While this summer we have endured what seems to be the never ending story of road work through the centre of town as I understand it sidewalks are not part of the plan. They need to be! Last December 24th I was shocked and horrified to learn of the death of a 26 year old man, that I had known for 16 years, who had just completed his shift at one of the local stores along highway 35. Due to the present layout of the intersection and the snow this left him walking in a live lane of traffic during a significant snow storm on a road with a 70 km speed limit. He did not make it home for Christmas. Highway 35 is a Provincial road, but I believe we need to convince the province to reduce the speed limit to 50 km immediately and to build a sidewalk/bike lane on one side of the road that will be maintained throughout the winter so that we all have a safe way to travel through the centre of town by human power. I would also like to see this sidewalk named in honour of the young man that lost his life on December 24th, 2017.

