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King's Medal for Maureen Jackson



See more on page 7.



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Less than half the picture:
**An evening
- and opportunity - lost**

By **Richard Bercuson**



If anyone from Brooklin believed that attending last week's all candidates forum in Pickering might help them decide who to vote for, they had a surprise.

Only Liberal candidate Juanita Nathan and the NDP's Jamie Nye were present. The Green Party's Andrea Wood called in sick. No accommodation was made by the organizers, Pickering's Fairport Beach Neighbourhood Association (FBNA) for her making a virtual attendance. Don't we have the technology for that?

None of the Conservative, People's Party or Centrist Party candidates chose to show up. As if to stamp an exclamation point on it, their seats, tables, and name cards were left on the stage. The message was clear: If this was such a "consequential election," how come only two thought it consequential enough to be there?

About 100 voters were scattered

through the high school gym that required a GPS to locate. Held three days after advance polling closed, the evening had a distinct feel of after-the fact.

A moderator kept the proceedings on task, posing questions to Nye and Nathan that had been sent to the FBNA in advance. Evidently they received over 50. Since it wasn't a debate, each had two minutes to respond.

Responses mostly focused on Pickering's needs. Nathan lives in Markham where she's a city councillor while Nye, an electrician, lives in Pickering. What they knew, or even pretended to know about Brooklin's needs, was, to be generous, sparse.

There was plenty of talk about Pickering's Frenchman's Bay and the lands north of the city that were once reserved for an airport. Nathan said her priority if elected was to ensure those lands became parks.

She mostly touted Mark Carney's party lines. "Just say this," she

must have been directed. Her responses were broad strokes that barely touched on real issues. Nye, who has also run provincially for the NDP, scored points with actual examples and seemed to have a more hands-on approach. As results showed, the NDP didn't have a shot which is unfortunate because Nye presented some solid thoughts.

The hour-long forum format did not allow for an audience Q and A. So people were left to stand by the stage exit and corral the two candidates to fire questions at them. Dare I say, I was first in line.

Why didn't you advertise in or submit your ideas to the BTC? Too late. Missed the deadline.

One question concerned crime, namely car theft and home invasions. Are you aware of the problem with soft bail conditions and catch-and-release, given the number of repeat offenders, according to the DRPS? Yes,

aware. Nye offered if I was aware of the number of people who die while in custody. Really?

Which of you accepted the Whitby Chamber of Commerce's invitation to attend a forum? It was Nathan. Nye said he must have missed the email.

What's Brooklin's biggest issue? Getting the new hospital. (Well, we're getting it, so...) 407 tolls especially during Winchester construction. (Which ends in August).

It's unlikely anyone left the gym more knowledgeable about the two candidates nor their views. Sadly, the entire election and riding marriage was a black hole of vacuous bromides. Yet still Nathan won, though not handily, obviously riding Carney's coattails.

She has a long way to go to win over Brooklin residents who felt ignored and disrespected during the campaign.

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The Earliest Settler

By Jennifer Hudgins



One of Brooklin Village's original settlers, John Campbell, played a central role in its early development. In 1839, he and Daniel S. Way helped survey and map out the village then known as Winchester. Their efforts led to the construction of key structures such as a flour mill on what was then Mill Street (now Cassels Road East) and a general store.

Campbell and his brother Robert built The Brooklin Mill in 1848 which operated as such until 1991. In 2002, the Brooklin Mill Montessori School moved into the building. These early contributions laid the foundation for Brooklin's transformation from a modest settlement into a thriving community.

Loyalist father

Born on June 2, 1794, in Newark, New Jersey, John was the son of Corporal Hugh Campbell and his wife, Sarah. His father, a Loyalist, had served in the Queen's Rangers during the American Revolutionary War. Loyalists like Hugh fought alongside British forces in an effort to maintain ties to the Crown.

However, after the war, many Loyalists were displaced as the newly formed United States did not welcome them. When John was two years old, his parents moved to Canada, settling on a tract of land granted to them

by the British government near Cataraqui, now known as Kingston. In 1816, John married Hannah Bicknell, and they raised eleven children. He supported his family as a merchant and sawmill operator.

John's influence extended beyond business into the political sphere. He was elected to represent Frontenac in the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada, where he advocated for infrastructure improvements and supported the agricultural community.

Relocation

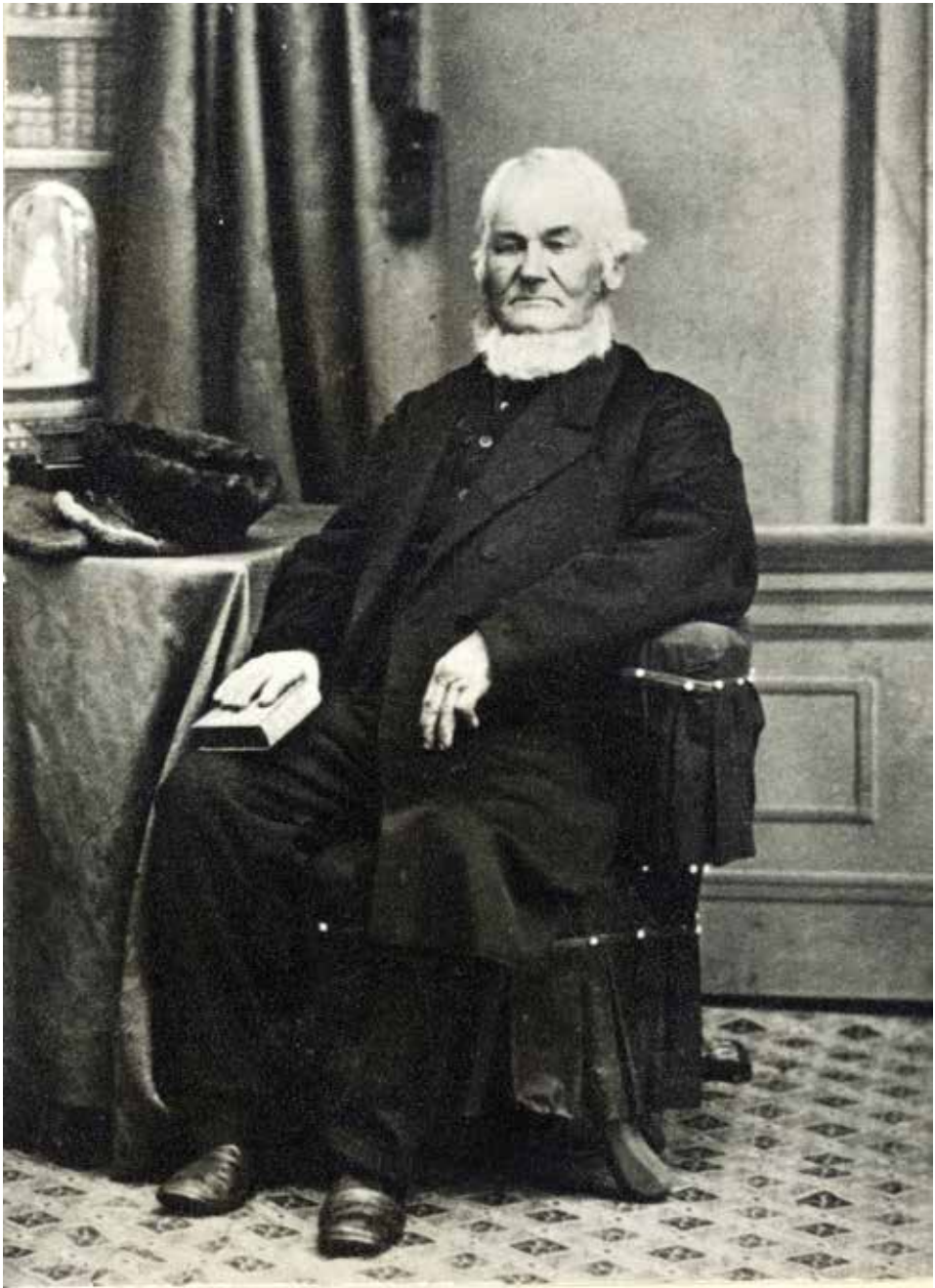
In 1832, he and his family relocated to what was then Winchester (now Brooklin) in Whitby Township, where he joined other pioneers in clearing the land and building roads that connected the area to the interior. He also played a key role in the development of Whitby Harbour.

From early on, he strongly supported the temperance movement and upheld the principle of total abstinence, well before formal organizations had taken root in Canada. He was also active in the Methodist Episcopal Church, a denomination known for its emphasis on personal holiness, social reform, and leadership in the temperance cause.

The Campbell legacy extended beyond civic and political contributions and lived on through the accomplishments of John's family. One of his sons, Benjamin, made his mark as a County Town Councillor and bailiff.

Grand daughters performed

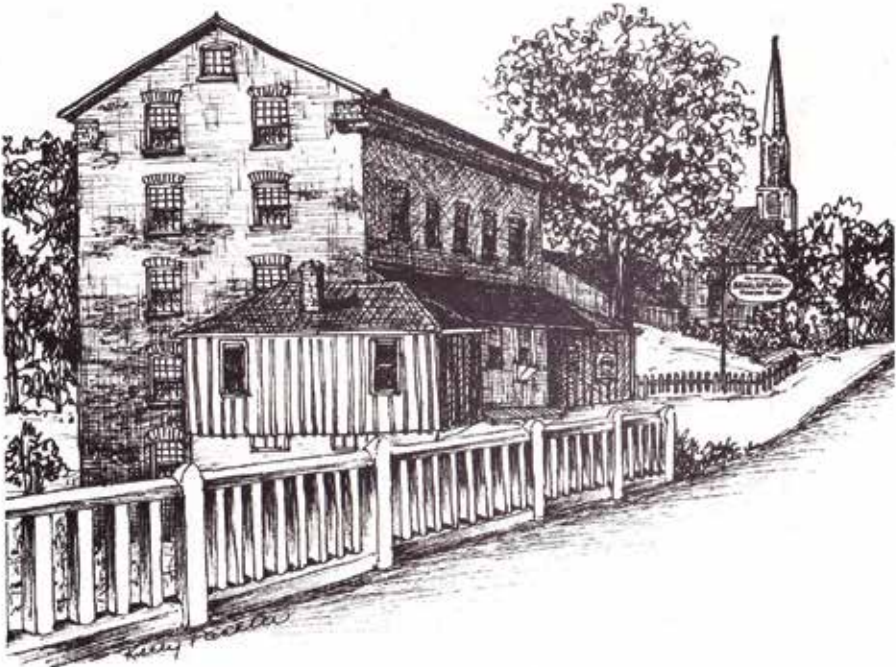
Two of Benjamin's daughters, May Georgie and Florence Irwin, found success on a very different stage. Known as the "Irwin Sisters," the duo gained popularity with their singing act, debuting at the Adelphi Theatre in Buffalo, New York. Their



JOHN CAMPBELL

performances later brought them to prominent venues, including New York's Metropolitan Theatre and Tony Pastor's Theatre. In 1883, May embarked on a solo career, making her London debut the following year. She went on to become a celebrated figure on the American stage, with a career that spanned from the late 1890s to the end of the 1910s.

John Campbell passed away on December 22, 1876, in Brooklin, one of the most respected and influential figures in the village's early history. He is buried in Groveside Cemetery, though his grave remains unmarked, a quiet and curious footnote to the life of a man who played such a foundational role in the Brooklin story.



Elise and Pui-Yee Ho Pitchin-in last weekend!

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Maureen Jackson: A Pillar of Community Service

By Nicole Scott

Brooklin’s Maureen Jackson is one of 305 volunteers in Canada who have been bestowed with the King Charles III Coronation Medal “in recognition of their outstanding contributions to supporting girls and youth in their communities.”

Jackson moved to Brooklin from Bowmanville in 1983 after marrying Ron Jackson. While her volunteering journey began early, it was in Brooklin where her impact flourished and continues to this day.

Developing a leader
At the age of 18, she transitioned from a participant in the Girl Guides program to a leader, imparting essential life skills such as first aid, crafts, knots, camping, and of course various fun activities like songs and games to young girls on a weekly basis. Her leadership quickly expanded to organizing weekend camping trips, both locally and regionally, and mentoring other leaders through camps and training sessions.

Over a 55-year career in Guiding, Jackson held positions such as Commissioner, Division Counsel, and Central Area Counsel. Today, she continues to lead local groups, including her own granddaughter and the daughters of former guides.

Jackson’s dedication to community and volunteering extended to the Brooklin United Church where she

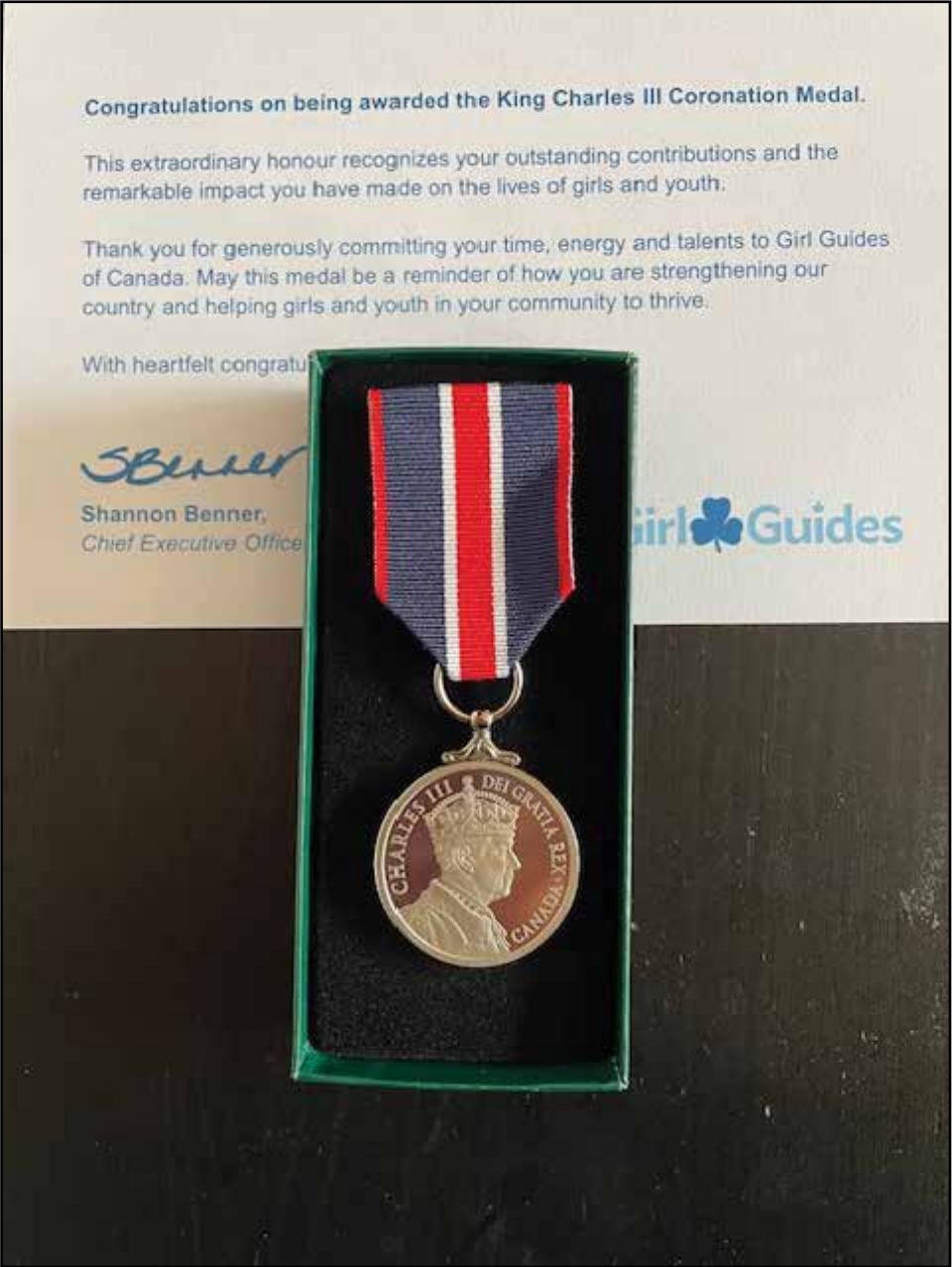
was a Sunday School teacher and Vacation Bible School organizer, often delivering daily messages through engaging skits.

New youth group
Recognizing the need for youth engagement, she founded a youth group for teenagers, providing a space for bonding, life skills, sports, and discussions. Her innovative approach included dramatizing Sunday service messages and organizing weekend getaways. In recent years, Maureen has spearheaded the Brooklin United Church Christmas Hamper initiative, gathering food and gift donations for over 60 families.

In 2003, she joined the Optimist Club of Brooklin, taking charge of organizing and running youth dances held every other Friday night, a tradition that continues to this day at the Brooklin Community Centre. Her volunteer efforts extended to other Optimist events, eventually leading her to the role of president. Her vision also led to the creation of the Youth Optimist Club, both locally and across the district.

Additional volunteer efforts have included the Ashburn Sports Association, Pizza Days and other school events at Meadowcrest and the Brooklin Spring Fair among other projects.

Maureen Jackson’s tireless efforts and lifelong dedication have




positively impacted countless lives, making her a deserving recipient of this honour. She is a testament to the profound difference one individual can make through volunteerism and community service.



FEDERAL ELECTION RESULTS • PICKERING-BROOKLIN

As of April 29, 2025, 8am
260/263 POLLS REPORTING • 70,087 VOTES REPORTING

NAME	PARTY	VOTES	SHARE
Juanita Nathan	LIB	37,896	54.1%
Alicia Vianga	CON	28,915	41.3%
Jamie Nye	NDP	1,809	2.6%
Lisa Robinson	PPC	627	0.9%
Andrea Wood	GRN	526	0.8%
Zainab Rana	CEP	314	0.4%



**Juanita Nathan of
the Liberal Party to
serve as Minister
of Parliament for
Pickering-Brooklin**

**NOTICE OF PESTICIDE USE**

Between May and September 2025, the Regional Municipality of Durham and the Ontario Ministry of Transportation will be conducting larviciding programs, under the authority of Durham Region’s Medical Officer of Health, to control larval mosquitoes in order to prevent the development of vectors of West Nile virus.

The pellet and/or briquette formulation of the larvicide methoprene (Altosid - Registration No. 21809 and No. 27694 under the *Pest Control Products Act, Canada*), or the water-soluble pouch formulation of the larvicide *Bacillus sphaericus* (VectoLex WSP - Registration No. 28009 under the *Pest Control Products Act, Canada*), will be placed into catch basins of storm drains in areas across the Regional Municipality of Durham.

The granular formulation of the larvicide *Bacillus thuringiensis subspecies israelensis* (VectoBac 200G - Registration No. 18158 under the *Pest Control Products Act, Canada*) will be placed in temporary pools of standing water, ditches, and storm water retention ponds in areas throughout the Regional Municipality of Durham.


The granular formulation of the larvicide VectoBac 200G and/or the granular formulation of the larvicide *Bacillus sphaericus* (VectoLex CG - Registration No. 28008 under the *Pest Control Products Act, Canada*) might also be placed in sewage lagoons in areas across the Regional Municipality of Durham.






All larvicides will be applied by Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks licensed applicators or trained technicians.

For more information on the locations and dates of treatment on:

Regional and Municipal property - contact the Durham Region Health Department at 1-800-841-2729 or visit durham.ca/WestNile for additional information about West Nile virus

Ontario Ministry of Transportation property - contact Ontario Ministry of Transportation at 1-416-235-5462 (collect calls accepted) for additional information.





Brooklin Family Matters: by Leanne Brown

The challenge wasn't a "feet"



About a month ago, I was playing lacrosse with my daughter, tossing the ball back and forth and chatting. I dropped it and she challenged me for it. That's how I rolled my ankle.

It promptly swelled to the size of a cantaloupe. For a few days, I followed a regime of ice, rest and compression to treat a suspected sprain. It got slightly better but not nearly quickly enough.

Five weeks later, x-rays confirmed it was broken. I'd need a boot cast for four to six weeks.

Not so bad. Well, except it's my right foot so I can't drive for at least two weeks. After that, just short distances. My sexy new summer footwear is now replaced by a sock brace.

Everyday life goes on. Laundry gets done by tossing it over the landing. No stairs yet. Clean laundry has been residing in the kitchen. My family is digging through, it but no one has taken it upstairs.

The cupboards and fridge are getting sparse. Can't drive, so can't get groceries. My husband finally goes to the store when we get low enough that we'd otherwise have to eat out.

The dog looks at me with, naturally, puppy dog eyes begging for a walk. Reluctantly, he goes with the other two humans in the house. One day, he whined for 40 minutes and I finally broke down and hobbled around the block while he sniffed every tree.

The foot is healing and the pain is minimal. I'm getting good at the walking cast. I found a shoe to wear on my left foot so I'm evened out. Before, I was lopsided.

What I learned is that my family thinks I am invincible - until I'm not. They're picking up the slack now. The dog has decided that running with my daughter is actually really fun.

Two weeks to go and I can finally ditch the boot. Looking forward to summer sandals.

As for my lacrosse days, next time, I'll let my daughter win the challenge.

Change to Spring Fair Parade Route

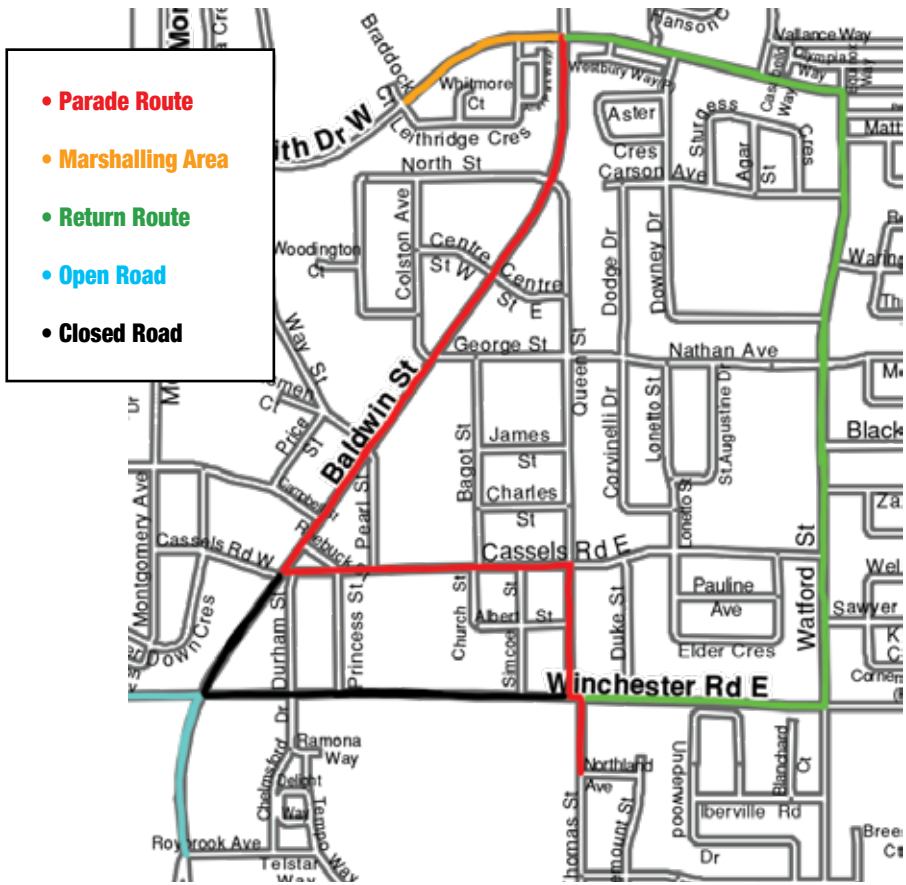
Given the construction on Winchester Road, this year's Spring Fair parade route on the morning of Saturday, June 7, has changed.

The parade will again begin at Brooklin High School and proceed south on Baldwin.

When in downtown, it will turn left from Baldwin onto Cassels Rd on the south side of Grass Park.

The parade will continue east on Cassels Rd to Queen St. where it will turn right, heading south on Queen to Winchester. It will finish on Queen at Winchester.

Winchester Rd. from Baldwin to the Queen/St. Thomas intersection will be closed as will Baldwin from Winchester north to Cassels.



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WHAT IS A BALANCED MARKET?

As many of you know, real estate is a cyclical industry with three types of markets: a seller's market, a buyer's market and a balanced market. Each has its own characteristics determined by factors that include supply and demand.

In a seller's market, the interest in buying housing outstrips the available supply, resulting in higher prices. In other words, sellers have the upper hand, with bidding wars commonplace. It's the opposite of a buyer's market, in which excess inventory versus interested potential buyers means buyers have the upper hand in terms of setting price and terms.

In a balanced market, meanwhile, the number of homes for sale is roughly equal to the number of buyers in the market, which means neither buyers nor sellers have a significant advantage. That's why it's generally considered a win-win.

Sellers need to do their due diligence to prepare their homes for sale and typically accept reasonable, close-to-list prices offered in a balanced market. Housing prices remain stable. For buyers, there's usually a sufficient number of homes to compare and choose from. There's time for home inspections, financing, showings and other conditions key to a successful transaction, removing the pressure so many buyers experience in a seller's market.

So, what kind of market are we in? In March, Canadian home sales fell on a month-over-month basis once again, as rising tariff turmoil and uncertainty keeps home buyers on the sidelines, the Canadian Real Estate Association (CREA) reports.

Also, in March, new supply moved up by three per cent month-over-month. Combined with the decrease in sales, the national sales-to-new listings ratio fell to 45.9 per cent compared to 49.7 per cent in February, CREA notes. The March level for that measure of market balance is the lowest since February 2009. The long-term average for the national sales-to-new listings ratio is 54.9 per cent, with readings between 45 per cent and 65 per cent generally consistent with balanced housing market conditions.

There were 165,800 properties listed for sale on all Canadian MLS Systems at the end of March, up 18.3 per cent from a year earlier but still below the long-term average of around 174,000 listings for this time of year.

"While the trend of falling monthly sales has been observed in Canada over the last few months, there are still many regions where sales are high, inventory is near record lows and prices are rising," according to CREA Board Chair Valérie Paquin.

"There are also parts of the country with historically low sales and the highest inventory levels in a decade or more. If you're looking to buy or sell a property in 2025, you'll need to understand the market where you are so contact a realtor in your area today."

There were 5.1 months of inventory on a national basis at the end of March, the highest level since the early months of the pandemic, CREA reports. The long-term average for this measure is five months of inventory. Based on one standard deviation above and below that longterm average, a seller's market would be below 3.6 months and a buyer's market would be above 6.4 months.

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