

CROWE

OCT 29/2018 • BARRIE'S INDEPENDENT VOICE • VOL 18 ISSUE 4 • FREE



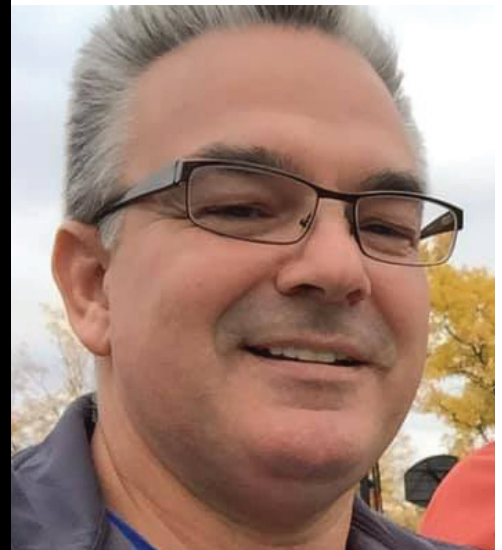
Mayor Jeff Lehman saves Barrie's dignity

And no, it was not by beating Ram Faerber



Worst candidate gone

Steve Trotter, a liar to council and the voters, loses in Ward 6



Gary Harvey wins

Wipes out Patrick Brown Loyalist™
Andrew Prince in Ward 7

2018 BARRIE MUNICIPAL ELECTION SPECIAL EDITION, VOLUME 2

www.thecrowe.ca

Good riddance, go play your games someplace else



Patrick Brown, in mid-gasp for breath, stands behind the closed Dixie Cup factory in Brampton, with his faux drama, to promise jobs

There is no political commentary in Barrie, aside from myself.

If I stopped doing it, there would be none. The *Barrie Advance* doesn't do it, and that website-only thing, *Barrie Today*, could not do it, even if they tried, and both of them would not allow anyone to write for them with a strong Letter to the Editor.

Patrick Brown is a liar. Patrick Brown is a mercenary.

Brown lied tremendously to get the leadership of the PC Party, and then blossomed into the liberal that he always wanted to be. Or scratch that. What he did, by stabbing the grassroots in the back, is not indicative of being a liberal or a member of any other stripe of party. Brown blossomed into the corrupt politician he really is, because he had a free hand to do so. Absolute power corrupts absolutely, as the saying goes. The saying sticks, because it is true. Brown treated the PC Party like a private *party*, appointing friends and deciding for himself what the party would be, for his own pleasure, not for party members, such as myself and others. Brown showed that he hates democracy, itself, and that evil crosses all party lines.

Brown parachuted himself to the riding of Simcoe North to get a seat as leader of the PC Party. He intended to come back to Barrie and run here for the 2018 provincial election, and was acclaimed as the candidate for this riding, to do so. When he did go for Simcoe North, he said over and over to the people of this riding: "Barrie is my home!"

Once he had no government gravy coming, he showed us that he never loved Barrie and that it was not his home. He lied. Brown came here for the advantages his uncle, PC MPP Joe Tascona, had waiting for him, to get started. That was all.



Patrick Brown's former Barrie mansion, on a private road at 3 Pemberton Lane, with a carbon footprint the size of a football field

Brown got started in council, and took the first shot he had available and ran for the federal Conservatives against Liberal MP, Aileen Carroll. He lost, and took the next shot at it and won. From there, with the past few years, he kept his salary and walked away from his duties as MP and campaigned like a banshee to get the leadership of the PC Party. Then he had his problems, could not run for a party here, and left. On the way out, he blew \$300,000.00 in two months, as an independent(!) MPP for Simcoe North while he had already stated he was not running(!) here. In so doing, he hired seven new people during that time. Kickback money through his friends? PC MPP Randy Hillier is calling for an OPP investigation.

The last act of any scoundrel, is to loot the treasury before leaving.

Brown never created a single job for Barrie aside from the one he got for himself with the government, and the ones he created with government money, for his clique, right to the end with a frenzy of needless hires and spending in his last two months in this area. There was no work for him here, after being in government for eighteen years, so he left for Mississauga. Get it? Brown could not get a job, here in his own riding, and he went on to promise he had the power to bring jobs, for others.

Like any other washout who is also a lawyer, he got some kind of consulting gig from his network of useful idiots. He married a woman who doesn't do any real work. He waited for his next opportunity. Regional Chair of Peel, I have to admit, made sense. It was a new category for election. He was considered the frontrunner, early. Then, Premier Doug Ford cancelled that position for election. Brown had less than a day to decide what to do, if he wanted to run for anything, this year.

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CROWE 500 copies
Fake Editor: Sid Crowe
Publisher: Darren Roskam



Mayor of Barrie, Jeff Lehman: thankfully, way too much for Patrick Brown to handle

As we can tell, from how fast and dishonestly Brown moved from Mississauga to Brampton, and how he pretended to have a history there, he could have just as easily moved right back to Barrie, with his biggest network of friends all more than happy to have provided him with an address and a lease, in minutes. Then after he came back, he could claim a deep history here, with almost ten years as MP, about two and a half as MPP in nearby Simcoe North, and when he got started in 2000, two terms as a Barrie City Councillor.

One problem. In the middle of March of this year, Mainstreet Research did a poll of 2000 Barrie residents and found that not only could Mayor of Barrie Jeff Lehman beat Conservative MP for Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte, Alex Nuttall, he could also beat Brown for Mayor of Barrie.

Brown is all about advantages. Does he campaign well? You bet he does, and with the advantages afforded to him within the networks of the conservative parties in Barrie provided by his uncle, who was then the PC MPP for this riding, he got a leg up that nobody else got, and he built on it. Not everyone gets those advantages, and that is what brought Brown to Barrie.

Or maybe Brown came here for the scenery, and it was just a coincidence that his uncle happened to be here, and was already elected and within the same parties Brown would run for.

If any of you reading this, no matter what you want to do, got an advantage in politics, or got a stake in business, you could, if you worked your advantage, succeed where others would

not even be able to compete fairly with you and whatever you wanted to do. Brown is not a master politician or a miracle worker. He just had an advantage, and built on it. The local papers here, when we had two real papers, left him alone with a free ride, as he campaigned for the leadership of the PC Party, when they should have been demanding with every edition, that he either surrender his salary or go back to work as the MP he had been elected to be. Brown got it easy. That is his life story. Hitting the road during campaign time, does not make him a hard worker. Brown was mediocre at his job, which is why he never made cabinet with Stephen Harper. Here is a quote:

“Patrick knows nothing about provincial politics. He’d be the last guy I’d choose. I don’t know what he’s done for the provincial party ever to make him qualified to have anything to offer. He’s a federal member who’s made no headway whatsoever in the Harper government in the eight or nine years he’s been there. How could I possibly think he could come to Ontario and do a good job when he couldn’t even make cabinet in Ottawa?”

—Former Progressive Conservative MPP for Simcoe North, Garfield Dunlop, *Toronto Star*, October 4, 2014

Of course, after promising Garfield Dunlop a visit to the pork barrel, he changed his tune and stepped aside for Brown. They are both garbage. Brown always has it easy.

Brown taking on Lehman? Too difficult. Not easy. Brown did not come back to town, even though it made the most sense, because if you want to be mayor, you should, like...you know... sort of know the place pretty good?

Bored with Lehman? Not me, and let me tell you why.

When John Brassard was leaving Barrie City Council to become the Conservative MP for Barrie-Innisfil, they had a little send-off for him. He said that Lehman was “exactly what we needed at the exactly the right time.” While I might not agree with all of that, for this municipal election and for our city, I do believe it. Lehman saved Barrie from Brown.

Brown is a self-serving liar, and he had a base to build on in Brampton, because while he was in office as our MP, he was spending loads of time travelling to India. What did that bring Barrie? Nothing. No jobs or investment. Brown was already campaigning for leadership of the PC Party, years before it was available. Once he became the leader, it was his job to push the brand and look for new avenues of support. He has an Irish name and is Wonder Bread white; go ahead and pretend to care about those from the far eastern countries, as if he does. After he left the PC Party, and then went for Mayor of Brampton, he had that base there, and it was built when he should have been doing other things, like his job, serving Barrie as MP. So he takes Brampton, with another undeserved advantage. Sad, yes. At least Brown is not here! Thanks, Jeff. —Darren Roskam

CROWE picks and passes, redux

Ward 1

I thought that Bonnie Ainsworth's daughter, Shaughna, had the lock on this. Congratulations to Clare Riepma for doing the impossible. Riepma has a degree in civil engineering, and for me at least, that beats the Ainsworth daughter, another school teacher. Cripes, Barrie has had enough school teachers in government, or trying to get into government, for the last several years. It should not have been so easy, for Ainsworth to have installed her daughter to her own council seat. With nine candidates, Ainsworth and Riepma were the frontrunners, and with Riepma's 974 votes to Ainsworth's 852, it was kinda close. Adios, Ainsworths!



Clare Riepma, at right, with his wife Judy, left

Ward 2

Rose Romita didn't want it, and didn't plan for it, and it showed. She could have and should have, moved to Ward 2 from Ward 4. She didn't want to, as it was not important for her to do so. Her front yard looked like a war zone, a lot of the time. None of that is acceptable for an incumbent. She got lucky when she got in, with Lynn Strachan having pulled out of the 2014 election, and Romita didn't learn anything about politics in four years. She and her charity dinners and the opportunity she had, are leaving the council table, for good. There is no second act coming for her. One Patrick Brown Loyalist™ gone.

Keenan Aylwin wanted it, and even though his politics are not mine, I have to give the guy credit for really giving it his all. Of course, he had the big advantage of having campaigned to the ward and riding earlier for the provincial election, for the Greens. And you know what? He is not a Patrick Brown Loyalist™, so I don't care, even though I would have been happier with Richard Forward, and happiest, with Yolanda Gallo.



Keenan Aylwin

Ward 3

I predicted Doug Shipley would win, and he did. Not very difficult to predict that one. He must have spent close to the limit, as he did last time, with none of it his own money, like last time. And like last time, those who tried to take him on, didn't have enough friends with money. Will have to wait for the expense report, a few months from now. as if it matters.

If only our elections would have the candidates post their materials in the town square and make a website if they wanted, and then go to the doors by themselves, with no mountains of plastic and paper junk to outspend each other, with. Ah, democracy. As it is, people like Shipley always win, when the others have no money to work with. A Patrick Brown Loyalist™ holds his seat. No big deal, and nothing to write about.



Doug Shipley
artist's rendering

Ward 4

Barry Ward took Ward 4, as predicted by myself. Nothing to see, here.



Barry Ward
exactly as illustrated

CROWE picks and passes, redux

Ward 5

Peter Silveira had family tragedies to deal with, which harmed his attendance to council meetings. He even missed the Ward 6 appointment vote last year, and though I am not in his ward, I was hurt and angry for him missing it, as I felt he would have voted for me. There is nothing wrong with voting for friends, as long as the friends deserve the vote, and nobody deserved that appointment more than I did. The other members of council kept it in the family, voting for former councillors Steve Trotter and Lynn Strachan, which is a bigoted and discriminatory act; no diversity, with that. At least Silveira did not vote against me, while absent. I did say, the same, that I was done with him. Then he reached out and explained what happened. While he may have lost, I managed to get him back as a friend. Familiarity breeds contempt, for lack of a better word, and with Silveira so outgoing and well known in the ward, he was taken for granted and his supporters felt he was safe. With that said, I have spoken with Robert Thomson a few times, and he seems to be a nice man.



Robert Thomson

Ward 6

My pick was Micheline Robichaud. She had a great website and a good story to tell. At that time, Natalie Harris' website was not together, and I moved forward with my choice. Harris got in, though, and now her website is together and she has a good story, too. Check it at www.votenatalie.ca as she is making updates before being sworn in later this year. That is where I got the picture for this story, from.

Harris is a mother of two children; has been a Barrie resident since 1996; is a retired Advanced Care Paramedic with over 11 years of experience serving Barrie; had a strong voice in the successful implementation of Ontario's 'PTSD Bill', Bill: 163, and Canada's 'PTSD Bill', C-211; holds a BHSc from Victoria University, for which Harris won the Outstanding Achievement Award and is an educator and curriculum developer for over 9 years with Georgian College's Paramedic Program (not a school teacher, thank goodness) and more. Great person and *so much better* than that tepid fraud, Steve Trotter!



Natalie Harris

Ward 7--CROWE pick wins!

Endorsed by the Citizens of Barrie Taxpayer's Coalition, Ward 7 has been home for Harvey and his family for the past 19 years, and he has been a member of the judicial system for the past 29 years. Harvey is a graduate of the University of Toronto Rotman School of Management, University of Guelph-Humber, Humber College and the Ontario Municipal Management Institute. Harvey is more than ready to take over, do better, and listen to you first, above anyone else, with no cliques.

He was my pick and won!



Gary Harvey
www.garyharvey.ca

HARVEY

CROWE picks and passes, redux

Ward 8

When I first picked Brad Thompson, I did so because Jim Harris' website was not giving me his whole story, and I liked Thompson the best, because he was a big family man and his history looked good.

Now we learn that it was Thompson who was not telling the full story with his qualifying address. He listed property on Drury Lane in Barrie, Ward 2, as his address, and he really lives in Springwater Township. And now, taking a second look at Harris' website, one thing really stands out: "lifelong Barrie resident." He also had on his website, a shot of himself and his hockey team, from 38 years ago. Cannot get any more Barrie, than that.

So I picked wrong. I was lied to by a friend of Mike McCann's, Thompson, of whom McCann said, last year, was "shining brighter than the others," for the Ward 6 appointment.

I am not angry, I am disappointed. And if I had known, I would have picked Harris, first.

Sort of cool that with Natalie Harris and Jim Harris elected new this term together, it will look like we have a married couple on council.



Jim Harris

Ward 9--acclaimed--Sergio Morales

The picture at right is a detail shot from earlier this year. Then-independent MPP for Simcoe North, Patrick Brown and Conservative MP for Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte, Alex Nuttall, got together with former PC MPP for Simcoe North, Garfield Dunlop, who resigned to allow Brown to have his safe riding (sickening, are they not) so that he could have a seat, got together at a restaurant in Barrie to piss and moan and attack PC Party of Ontario leader, Doug Ford, for not getting back to Dunlop and Nuttall's calls to run in Brown's place, for Barrie, provincially. And of course, Brown was there to lobby for his friends to get the nod.

Sickening even to write this. Anyway, there's the Patrick Brown Loyalist™, Sergio Morales, serving the clique like the good and obedient sycophant that he is.



**Sergio Morales, top left,
with Andrew Prince, center**

Ward 10

Mike McCann was getting re-elected, easy. Told you so. Nothing much to write here, except to make the picture larger, from last time. This picture was posted to McCann's campaign website. I don't know why anyone would be proud to be seen in 2018 with Patrick Brown. At least, not anyone from this riding, who knows what Brown is, and stands for. To each his own, I guess.

My pick for Ward 8 was McCann's friend, Brad Thompson, and he lied about living in Barrie, when he really lives in Springwater.

That is the magic of Brown and all of whom he does business with. And it's the black magic of lies and deception.

Are you surprised? Didn't think so.



From left: The head of the snake, someone I don't know and a member of the Patrick Brown Loyalists™

Campaign memories with Gary Harvey, Ward 7



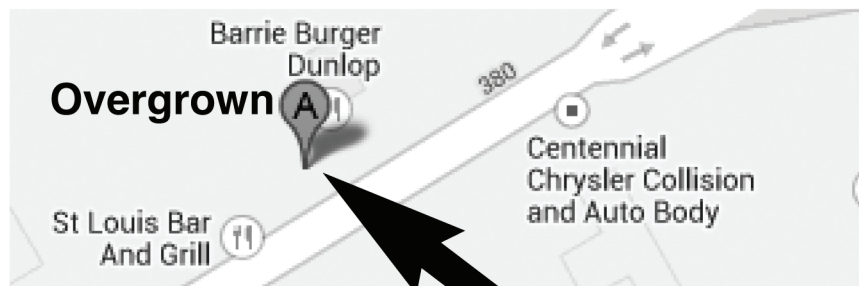
Enough politics, Happy Halloween at Centra!



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