



Adrian Foster

Courtice/Bowmanville

Long-time Mayor of Clarington

One of the joys of Clarington is if you want to be in a field, or go to a farmer's market, or see some apple blossoms, it's a 10 or 15 minute trip. Can you imagine how long it would take you in downtown Toronto? The ski hill? The Provincial Park? That's in our backyard.

I had never anticipated that I was going to be a politician. I was approached by Jane Rowe who was the local councillor in Ward 1 at some point in 2003. In a weak moment I said yes that I would run. She was retiring and looking for someone to replace her. At the beginning of 2003 if you had told me that by the end of 2003 I was going to be involved with municipal politics, I would have found the whole concept hilarious.

When we first moved to Courtice there were a number of newspapers. Early on, I got the newspaper and the front page of the paper said that a billy goat had been found wandering in downtown Bowmanville on Highway 2, and "does anyone know who owns the billy goat?" Deb and I looked at each other and wondered "what have we done?" Ha ha.

Clarington has an unusually high number of good "nodes," you know. There are any number of days (on this job) that I'd just as soon forget about, but the flip side is you have all these amazing stories. You'll talk to the "old timers," these people you get to connect with in this community. By and large, it's an incredibly friendly community.

