

From: Our Ottawa [mailto:itsourottawa@gmail.com]

Sent: September 2, 2010 6:28 PM

To: Our Ottawa

Subject: A CALL TO ACTION: Let's work together to get the best Ottawa City Council we can - Please Spread This E-mail

A CALL TO ACTION: Let's work together to get the best Ottawa City Council we can.

In this E-mail (being distributed to thousands of people in Ottawa) you will find:

1) An event invite (and poster attached that we hope you will distribute further to your networks) to a fundraiser for non-incumbent progressive candidates in the City of Ottawa who want to bring open government and progress back as fundamental principles of democracy

2) A description of a large group of community and civic activists that have been organizing for two years trying to bring change to City Hall: Our Ottawa

3) A Powerpoint Presentation (attached) of the rationale for selecting 6 non-incumbent candidates who can help bring change

1) What: Joint-candidate fund raiser event
When: Sunday September 12th, 3pm

Where: Johnny Farina Restaurant, 216 Elgin Street

<http://www.johnnyfarina.com/>

This is an event to rally support and resources behind 6 non-incumbent candidates from rural, urban and suburban areas endorsed by Our Ottawa. These candidates need financial and human resources in order to be elected and to contribute toward positive change in Ottawa .

Please come out to this social event; enjoy refreshments; and hear from the candidates:

*Jennifer Robitaille, Ward 1, Orleans - <http://jenniferrobitaille.ca/>

*Sheila Perry, Ward 13, Rideau-Rockcliffe

*Nadia Willard, Ward 16, River - <http://www.nadiawillard.ca/>

*Bob Brocklebank, Ward 17, Capital - <http://brocklebank.ca/>

*Bruce Webster, Ward 21, Rideau-Goulbourn - <http://webster4council.blogspot.com/>

gspot.com/

*Aaron Helleman, Ward 23, Kanata South - <http://electaaron.ca/>

See the Facebook event page

here: <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=148599791836081>

Please RSVP at itsourottawa@gmail.com

2) You may have heard of Our Ottawa over the past two years (www.ourottawa.ca). We are a group of civic-minded residents of Ottawa who want to make change happen at City Hall, and have been organizing over the past two years to try and make that happen. With the election less than 2 months away, it is now time to take that effort to the next level.

We are made up of people who have been **active on issues like public transit, affordable housing, the urban boundary, environmental sustainability and the City budget**, among many others. This is an effort to bring the community voice into the 2010 election in a meaningful way - to bring a strong new vision to City Hall, to support new candidates who agree with that vision and to encourage new voters to participate in the process.

Our Ottawa has been working toward these goals for well over a year and as we enter the last few critical months leading up to the election, it has become even more apparent that people across Ottawa who want meaningful progressive change at City Hall need to work together as a united group. We need all community groups, city-wide civic groups, activist groups, and like-minded people on the same side working in the same direction to change our City Council for the better, **and more bluntly, working for, donating to and supporting the same candidates.**

This term of council has often been frustrating - Lansdowne, the bus strike, budget fights, etc, and on a few occasions where a good decision was made, like holding the line on the urban boundary, it has been made by the slimmest of margins, because as a collective we organized to make it happen. Now, as we look towards the next term of council, with the councillors that have either announced they are retiring or running for Mayor, it is very possible for it to get worse.

Given this situation, it is critically important for all progressive people in Ottawa who care about quality transit, environmental sustainability, efficient and sufficient social services, and a sound City-wide vision to work together.

Our Ottawa (which is made up of Community Association members, Advisory Committee members, students, environmentalists, health networks and many others) are focused on making that happen, and we need your help. Ottawa is filled with wonderful people who are active in countless volunteer and not-for-profit activities and while we may fight for different causes, many of us share the same goals and principles. We need to work together. We need your time, your effort, your donations to these candidates' campaigns, and your networks, to spread the word and get more people on board.

We're going to be endorsing and actively working to get 6 new candidates elected and we'd like your help. Join this effort, pass this e-mail on to your friends and colleagues. Visit www.ouottawa.ca and let's work to make change at City Hall.

To contact us or to pledge support to a particular candidate please e-mail us at itsouottawa@gmail.com