

As you are probably aware, Councillor Theresa Rickerby resigned from Council on April 29th. Council accepted her resignation with regret at its May 2nd meeting.

Under the Ontario Municipal Act, there are two choices for filling her vacancy. Either Council can appoint a person who has consented to accept the office if appointed or a by-election can be held.

A Striking Committee made up of Mayor Brocanier, Deputy Mayor Henderson and Councillor Darling will recommend for Council's approval at its Committee of the Whole meeting on May 16th the method to fill the vacancy.

The executive of the Cobourg Taxpayers Association believes that in the interests of transparency and democracy, Cobourg Town Council should hold a by-election to fill the seat vacated by Councillor Theresa Rickerby.

While the option of appointing a replacement would be cost effective, with more than two-thirds of this Council's term still remaining, the CTA executive is concerned that doing so would not be representative of the community's voice and would undermine the legitimacy of the appointed Councillor. The CTA believes that Cobourg's eligible voters should decide on Theresa Rickerby's replacement as Councillor and that it should not be left to a backroom selection process where the appointed person would be beholden to a few individuals.

The CTA seeks your immediate response to the following question:

Should the CTA endorse and make known to Council that its supporters favour the calling of a by-election?

Please reply to this email by indicating either Yes or No.

If you have difficulty replying to this email, you can also send your reply to cta@cobourgtaxpayers.ca. Please reply by Wednesday, May 11, 2016.

We will let the Mayor and Councillors know what our Supporters want Council do to with regards to filling the vacant seat on Council.



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