

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Natasha Lesage Drops Out of SG Municipal Race

South Glengarry, Wednesday October 12th

Citing personal reasons and an overbooked schedule, Natasha Lesage has dropped out of the race for South Glengarry municipal council. Lesage made this decision several weeks ago but now feels it is necessary to inform as many of the electorate as possible in order not to steal votes away from other candidates.

Says Lesage: I have been responding to emails to inform people I have dropped out, and indeed have not campaigned at all since registering my candidacy. I support Patricia Bush and would ask anyone who was going to vote for me to vote for her instead.

Under Ontario's Municipal Elections Act, a candidate cannot remove their name from the ballot or officially withdraw from the race once the registration deadline has passed. If a candidate drops out after the deadline, the responsibility to inform the public falls on the candidate, not the municipality. The candidate must communicate their decision to voters through their own advertising, media releases, or social media channels. Meanwhile, the municipality must remain neutral, leaving the certified ballot exactly as it was when finalized August 21st, 2026.

Says Lesage: In the same way there is a deadline to formally announce my candidacy, I believed I would also be given a grace period to formally withdraw. It's disappointing the Act does not allow such a grace period. It makes the prospect of entering a race that much more daunting. Now I understand the process, it is urgent to inform as many voters as possible before voting begins October 19th not to vote for me.

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