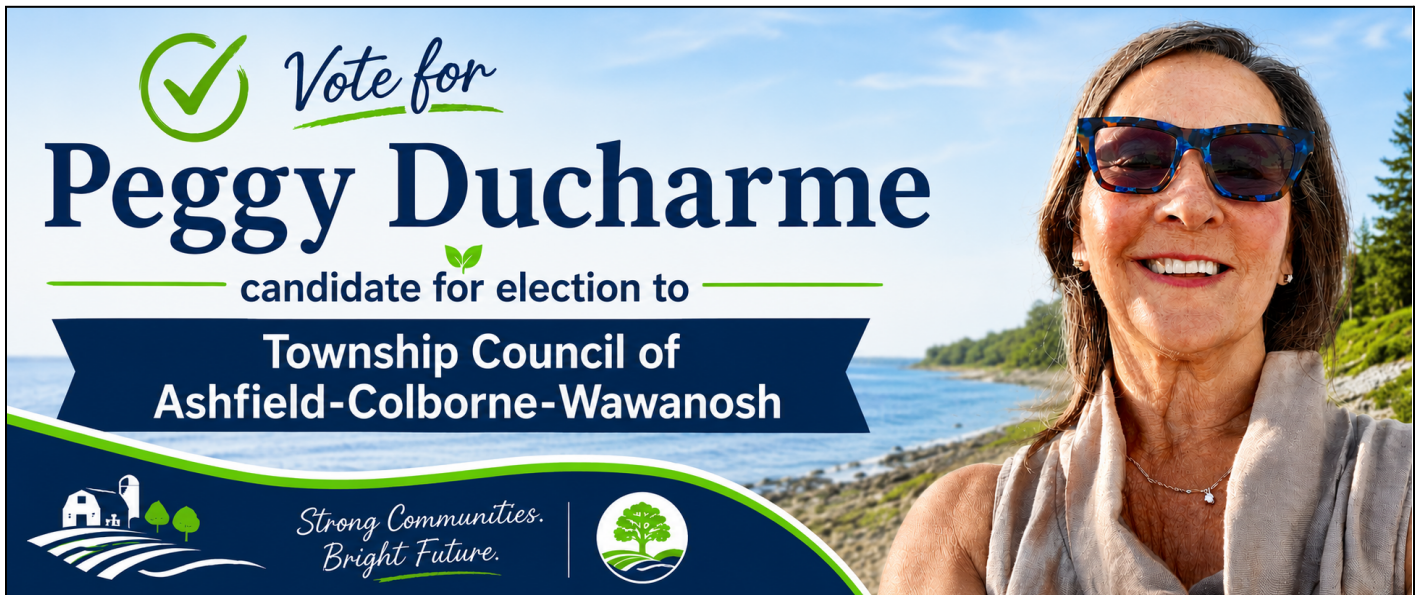




June 23, 2026

For Immediate Release

Candidate with Strong Municipal Experience running for Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh (ACW) council

Peggy Ducharme -- a dedicated Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh (ACW) resident with extensive experience leading business and community improvement initiatives -- announced her candidacy today for ACW council in the upcoming 2026 municipal election. With a background that includes economic development management, strategic planning, business support and community beautification, she wants to use her skills to help manage growth responsibly, improve services, and apply fiscal prudence.

Ducharme believes a well-managed, prosperous township with thriving farms and agri-businesses, well-maintained roads, reliable services, responsible growth, support of small businesses, and sustainable property values -- benefits everyone.

"I am running for ACW councillor because, as a growing township, I will use my experience and leadership qualities to provide a strong, constructive voice so that decisions consider the interests and realities of all residents. We are a township with active farms, cottage owners, businesses, retirement communities and a bevy of towns and hamlets from Auburn to Zion Beach. Every part of this township deserves fair, balanced, responsive and accessible representation on council -- which is my pledge," she says.



"Building on our township's history, my vision for ACW is centered on creating a balanced environment where growth and essential services go hand-in-hand with fiscal responsibility. I believe that true leadership means working alongside every family, senior, entrepreneur and farmer to ensure every voice is heard with respect and integrity".

A resident of ACW since Autumn 2022, Ducharme fell in love with ACW, which she refers to as "a piece of paradise". However, the area is not new to her. "Having grown up in Cambridge, Ontario, I have many fond memories of summer visits to the beautiful beaches and towns along Lake Huron."

Ducharme brings strong municipal experience to the table. As former Executive Director of a major Business Improvement Area in downtown Ottawa, she brings proven skills in economic development, partnership-building and efficient planning to support our local farms, small businesses and growing neighbourhoods -- while preserving the rural character we all value.

Her background includes economic development management with local boards of municipalities where she represented the interests of property owners and small businesses. She managed budgets of \$1.5 million, staff, streetscape infrastructure, and public programs. Ducharme worked directly with the City of Ottawa on capital road and transportation infrastructure projects, official plan policies, municipal budgets, community consultations, site plan applications, zoning, and bylaw regulations. This included daily engagement with municipal councillors, city departments, project consultants, emergency response services, and social services.

Throughout her career she served on numerous boards at the municipal, provincial, national, and international level, including destination marketing as a board member of Ottawa Tourism. She was also a member of the local host city committee of two Juno Awards shows in Ottawa.

"I am committed to working on the behalf of all residents' of ACW, collaboratively with councillors from all parts of the township, to build practical solutions that strengthen the entire municipality."

Ducharme is working on her campaign plan and invites ACW residents to tell her their township issues and priorities to inform her plan. To assist resident's input, she has created an Issues and Priorities form that residents can fill out. It is available on her website www.peggy4acwcouncil.com.

"I look forward to meeting and connecting with ACW residents in the months ahead and welcome contact and comments from you".

In addition to Ducharme's website, residents can connect and follow her on her social media channels:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PeggyDucharmeACW>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/peggyducharmecandidate/>

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