

#6. 21st July...Federal Election Candidates Update...and more Richmond Hill Climate Change Action Groups.

Note: 27th July is Deadline for Candidates to be confirmed

Richmond Hill Candidates

Liberal (incumbent)...Majid Jowhari
Conservatives...Costas Menegakis ???
NDP...TBD
Green...TBD
PCP...TBD

Aurora Oak Ridges Candidates

Liberal...Leona Alleslev
Conservative...
NDP...Brenda Power
Green...Randi Ramdeen
PCP...TBD
Animal Alliance...Kyle Bowles

World Climate Change Vignettes

The Great Coal-lapse

BY Corporate Knights Staff

July 16, 2019

In spite of any magical thinking, **“beautiful, clean coal” doesn’t exist**. Coal is the dirtiest fuel. It emits the highest proportion of carbon dioxide compared to other fossil fuels as well as other noxious substances such as sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter and mercury.

Fortunately, coal is on the way out. **Germany is even managing to shutter its coal industry without sacking a single miner.**

United Kingdom: Electricity produced from **coal declined from 42% of total electricity generation in 2012 to 7% in 2017**. In January 2018, the U.K. government laid out an implementation plan to shut down all coal-fired electricity generation plants by 2025 that do not have carbon capture and storage technology.

U.S.: Since the Trump administration came to office two years ago, **50 coal-powered plants have been shuttered, and 51 have announced plans to close, according to the Sierra Club. A total of 290 have closed since 2010 (that’s 40% of the U.S.’s coal power capacity)**. For the first time since the industrial revolution, the U.S. was expected to generate more renewable power than coal power this April, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

Climate activists turn to lawsuits to force action on global warming

Citizens and organizations have filed more than **1,300 lawsuits** related to climate change in at least **28 countries around the world**, [a recent analysis](#) has found. **More than three-quarters were in the United States, but 16 were in Canada** and [Nature](#) reports that the share of lawsuits filed in low- and middle-income countries such as Pakistan and Uganda is on the rise.

Continuing Information on other Groups that RHUC is working with through our Net Zero Team and the Community team of “Targeting Climate Change”.

Stop Plastics...Marta Ecsedi... <https://stopplastics.ca>

StopPlastics is a Toronto grassroots movement that advocates for a **ban on plastic bags in Toronto** as a first **step to reducing plastic waste**.

Our Vision

A world free from plastic pollution is only possible by stopping the consumption of plastic.

Our Mission

In 2009 Toronto City Council introduced a mandatory 5-cent bag fee, which had been successful in slashing the number of bags dispensed.

In 2012 Toronto City Council, at the behest of Mayor Ford, scrapped the mandatory fee.

At the same time as council voted to scrap the fee, they adopted a **motion tabled by Councillor David Shiner to ban plastic bags outright as of Jan. 1, 2013**. Members of the plastics industry commenced legal action and city lawyers warned they had a case. After a closed-door discussion, **councillors decided not to proceed with a ban**. The end result was no controls on plastic bags.

Fortunately, major grocery chains still charge the 5-cent fee and have reported significant reductions in the number of bags used. But that is not enough. **Toronto needs a complete BAN...**

Richmond Hill Board of Trade...David Katz... <https://www.rhbot.ca>

WHAT THE HECK IS A BOARD OF TRADE?

Richmond Hill non-profit organization promotes, **supports local business**

Most communities have them: non-profit organizations with a mandate to promote and support local businesses.

Businesses join a board of trade for many different reasons. The not-for-profit organization offers small businesses an established network as well as the opportunity to learn from more established colleagues.

All that being said, **we like to think it's the intangibles that keep our members engaged at the Richmond Hill Board of Trade**.

With more than **60 events each year**, each one offers very specific benefits to members. We want to provide an educational experience so every attendee walks away with a new piece of knowledge or a new skill.

We want our networking opportunities to put the right local businesses in touch with each other to create new linkages between business, suppliers, customers and support services.

And we want to ensure our advocacy work on behalf of the Richmond Hill business community is on point and effective. **We have one of the most active and engaged Government Affairs Committees in the province**. If there's an issue that concerns our members then we're out there talking about it.

Local business owners who attend RHBOT events say we're different from our Board of Trade and Chamber colleagues in other communities. **They point to a sense of camaraderie and community that's unique to Richmond Hill**. We're proud of that and we'll continue our efforts to earn our members trust and support.

We are a non-partisan organization but the Board of Trade believes that part of our commitment to the community is ensuring the public is informed and engaged.

For that reason, **we host election events for federal, provincial and local election events** in Richmond Hill. Watch for them coming up soon!

So there you have it: a very quick overview of what the Richmond Hill Board of Trade does for our community. We're always here to help!
Karen Mortfield is the executive director of the Richmond Hill Board of Trade. Visit their website at www.rhbot.ca.