Executive Summary

Rookie Councillor Tim O’Hare Involved in the Oldest Profession in the World? - Part 3 of 5

Article prose word count: 844 • Estimated reading time: 5 minutes.
Headings included. Graphic, caption, sign-off, charts, references and disclaimers excluded.

Continued from Part 2 of 5.

A conversation near Mal Woodhouse’s home

Before the 2022 election, I recall seeing Tim O’Hare leaving former Mayor Mal Woodhouse’s home. Tim told me he had sought election advice from Mal. I regarded Mal as an excellent person to consult because of his experience, knowledge and record of community service.

My understanding is that Mal advises new candidates who ask. That does not make him their campaign manager or establish an endorsement. I recall Mal telling me more than once that he had not run anyone’s campaign in the previous election, including Tim’s. I understood Tim’s comments as suggesting a closer role, although he did not expressly call Mal his campaign manager.

My concern is with the impression I took from the conversation. I cannot know Tim’s intentions, and I do not know what he told anyone else. My affectionate description of Mal as “the professor” is a metaphor reflecting my respect for his experience.

Salesmanship or leadership

When I asked Tim what skills an effective councillor needed, I recall him answering, “it’s all salesmanship.” I firmly believe my recollection is accurate, but it is not a recording or an independently verified quotation. The accompanying graphic expresses that recollection as “City council is all about salesmanship.” I also recall Tim expressing an ambition to run for mayor after his first term if things went well.

My experience running my clinics, medical think tank and research institute taught me that leadership involves developing people, building teams, understanding needs and improving service. Our work included cardiac testing, physician and patient education, and collaboration with cardiologists to improve access to diagnostics and consultations.

In my view, salesmanship alone is not enough of a commitment to serve. Others I have spoken with share that concern. I wanted to see independent judgment and leadership after the election, and chose to assess Tim’s performance rather than press every disagreement during his campaign. These are my assessments and reported conversations, not findings that all residents share them.

Why Canada Games Park mattered

I regard Canada Games Park as a good project but a bad financial deal for Thorold. The consortium has four partners: Brock University, Niagara Region, St. Catharines and Thorold. Each has one representative and one general vote on the Management Committee. Brock, St. Catharines and Thorold share operating costs and deficits equally; Niagara Region does not share those costs. **Thorold therefore bears one-third of operating deficits with one-quarter of the general votes.** [1]

Those proportions require qualification. Niagara Region does not vote on rental rates, giving Thorold one of three votes on those decisions. Some decisions require unanimity. Thorold has a share of the leasehold interest during the lease; Brock owns the land. The buildings pass to Brock at the lease's end without compensation to the tenant, subject to the lease provisions. Thorold is a co-tenant or lessee, not the lessor. [1–2]

The approximately $130 million over 40 years mentioned in an earlier draft remains unverified. It should not be treated as an established total or confirmed Thorold-only obligation. Concerns that costs could exceed estimates are not verified forecasts.

I found the agreement difficult to assess and was frustrated by what I perceived as limited opportunities for questions. The approving vote, public praise and reported "clown show" remark still require the checks identified in the source notes. My concerns about future appointments do not establish any bargain, appointment or private motive.

The borrowed jacket: a fictional joke

Here is my satirical comeback to the salesmanship remark: the director of a "WKRP in Cincinnati" remake called and asked me to tell Tim to return Herb Tarlek's loud jacket before filming begins. The call, remake and borrowing are entirely fictional. The latest graphic illustrates the joke; it is not a genuine photograph of the two men together. [4–5]

The point is expectations and delivery. In Part 2, Dad received the housekeeping service he wanted. In my view, Tim's performance did not match the independent approach that others and I expected or understood him to have promised.

Independence and communication

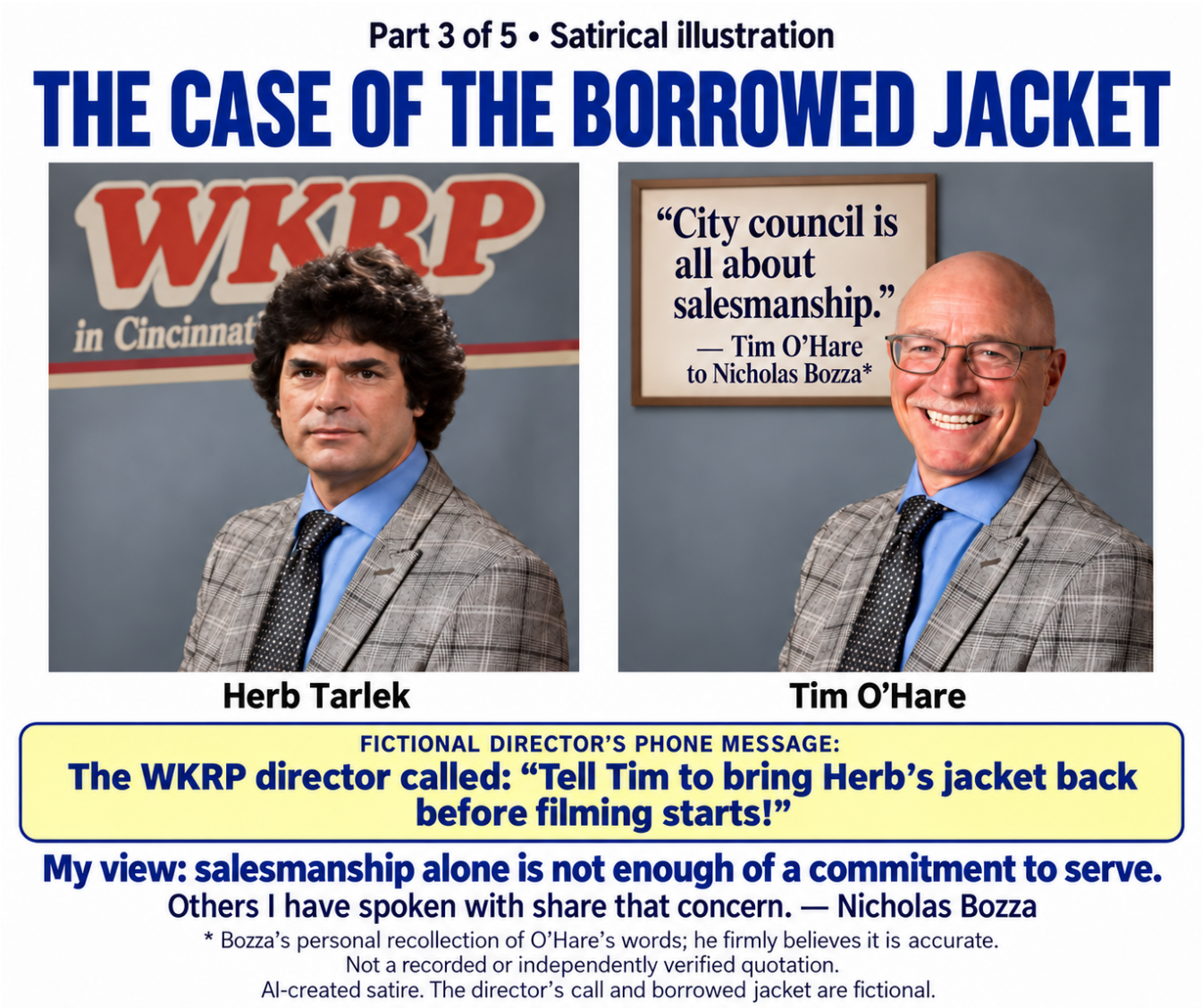
The UN-FAB FOUR is the label others and I use for a perceived recurring alignment involving Nella Dekker, Tim O'Hare, Ken Sentance and Mike De Divitiis. Mayor Terry Ugulini is listed separately as an associated figure. **Shared votes alone do not prove coordination, motives or improper conduct.** Informal conversations are not representative surveys.

After raising concerns, I recall being unable to interact with Tim's Facebook page as before and understood that I had been blocked. I had a similar experience with Mike De Divitiis. Other reported restrictions and their timing require confirmation. Restrictions alone do not establish their reasons.

I want readers to assess my concerns against the public record, Tim's explanations and the remaining articles. The family postscript expresses love for Ma and Pa and a wish for independent representation. Its housekeeping and cemetery imagery is humour, not evidence or an election forecast. The next article will explain why I did not write about Tim four years ago and continue examining his record.

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Satirical comparison [4–5]



[5] The accompanying AI-created Herb Tarlek / Tim O'Hare comparison is fictional satire. The director's call, remake and borrowed jacket are not actual events. The salesmanship wording represents Nicholas Bozza's personal recollection of what O'Hare said to him; Bozza firmly believes that recollection is accurate, but it is not a recorded or independently verified quotation. The opinion that salesmanship alone is not enough of a commitment to serve is Bozza's assessment, shared by others he has spoken with, not a representative survey finding.

Appendix A — Early activities and professions

Activity or occupation	Historical qualification
Salesperson or trader	Exchange and trade have long histories; salesmanship has no established claim to being the oldest profession.
Sex worker	“The oldest profession” is a popular expression, not a demonstrated historical ranking.
Court jester or entertainer	A court entertainer who amused others through performance, wit and flair. Its position here is editorial, not a claim about when the occupation began.
Toolmaker	Stone-tool production predates modern states and formal employment.
Hunter and butcher	Animal processing is an early subsistence activity; it does not establish a modern job title.
Fisher	Fishing has ancient roots; dates vary by site and the kind of evidence.
Storyteller or oral historian	Oral traditions do not leave a direct archaeological record from which a precise starting date can be assigned.
Tailor or clothier	Clothing and sewing have prehistoric roots; evidence for each differs.
Artist	Prehistoric imagery and symbolic objects are evidence of artistic activity.
Potter	Early fired-clay objects and pottery vessels are distinct categories.
Healer or shaman	Caregiving, treatment and ritual roles cannot all be dated or treated as one occupation.
Farmer	Agriculture developed in different places at different times.
Builder or architect	Shelter construction predates modern architectural professions.

Summary: survival activities are ancient, but modern occupation labels and precise rankings can mislead. **The article uses “oldest profession” figuratively.**

Appendix B — Councillors described as the UN-FAB FOUR

The mayor is added below as an associated figure in the author's commentary. His inclusion does not change the four-councillor meaning of the UN-FAB FOUR label.

UN-FAB FOUR is the label others and I use, having heard it from Thorold residents, to describe a perceived recurring voting alignment during the 2022–2026 council term. In my view, that pattern continues. **It is not an official caucus or proof of coordinated conduct.** I have heard the description for years, and some of my informal inquiries produced unanimous agreement among the people I asked. Those conversations were not scientific or representative surveys and do not establish the views of Thorold voters generally.

Councillor	Position in the author's commentary
Nella Dekker	Included in the group the author describes as a recurring voting bloc.
Tim O'Hare	Included in the group the author describes as a recurring voting bloc.
Ken Sentance	Included in the group the author describes as a recurring voting bloc.
Mike De Divitiis	Included in the group the author describes as a recurring voting bloc.
Terry Ugulini — Mayor	Additional figure I associate with the voting alignment, listed separately from the four councillors. My impression is that the alignment included the mayor until the cemetery issue; the specific vote needs to be identified.

My impression is that Mayor Terry Ugulini is distancing himself from the group as he approaches retirement. I have wondered whether a future political appointment might be a consideration, but I have no evidence of an appointment, agreement or private motive. Public praise for his role in Canada Games Park does not establish any such arrangement.

I wish Terry and his family all the best in retirement: enjoyable travels, good health and plenty of time in his garden. He is a very good gardener with an excellent green thumb and neatly arranged plants. Two green thumbs up, Terry—all the best!

Appendix C — Earlier group identified by the author

I identify the following people as an earlier group called the FAB FOUR, a description I have heard from Thorold taxpayers and voters. **This is my characterisation, not an official caucus designation or a finding of coordinated conduct.** The relevant council term and specific votes need to be identified. The revised chart lists four councillors, two unnamed, and the mayor as an associated figure.

Name	**Position identified by the author Like the NHL's Original Six, this is the group I describe as the original FOUR as many taxpayers did also.**
Nella Dekker	Councillor
Ken Sentance	Councillor
Terry Ugulini	Mayor
Two other councillors — names omitted	The author has omitted their names because they are no longer active in Thorold politics.

Source notes and review checks

[1] City of Thorold, Consortium and Co-Tenancy Agreement, sections 10.1, 13.2, 13.3 and 17, and the Legacy Lease. Supports committee composition, operating-cost allocation and voting qualifications. https://www.thorold.ca/en/recreation-and-culture/resources/canada-games/Consortium-and-Co-Tenancy-Agreement---website-version.pdf

[2] Bernard Lansbergen, ThoroldToday, "City Council still debating 'crappy' Canada Games Park deal," October 25, 2023. Reports the solicitor's explanation of ownership during and after the lease. https://www.thoroldtoday.ca/local-news/city-council-still-debating-crappy-canada-games-park-deal-7734304

Where information has not been independently confirmed, I rely on my own recollections and those of others, which I consider reliable. These accounts remain recollections rather than independently verified facts. When I refer to "voting patterns," I mean the perceived patterns that many others and I see; this is our interpretation, not an official finding or proof of coordination. My informal surveys and conversations found that many participants believed this voting alignment existed. In many instances, everyone I asked agreed that they perceived a voting bloc. To me, that indicates a commonly shared concern—not simply a mirage of my own making. Although these surveys may or may not meet everyone's definition of a scientific survey and do not establish the views of all Thorold taxpayers, they do show that my interpretation, and that of others, was shared by many of those I consulted through surveys. **Agreement among participants does not, by itself, prove coordination among councillors.**

Further review: The original approving council vote, the video of public praise, and the source and context of the reported "clown show" remark should be identified. My recollection of that remark comes from watching a video on Niagara Region's website. I have not had time to locate and recheck the recording, so I am relying on my memory; readers may consult the recordings themselves. These editorial revisions do not independently verify recollections or reports from residents.

[3] National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, Health Risks of Overweight & Obesity. Supports the increased-risk wording in the health analogy; it does not establish municipal outcomes. https://www.niddk.nih.gov/health-information/weight-management/adult-overweight-obesity/health-risks

Disclaimer

This draft contains my opinions, personal recollections, interpretations, humour and metaphors, alongside information identified from public sources. Recalled conversations are not verbatim transcripts. Unless expressly documented, my descriptions of motives, independence, inclusiveness or voting alignment are my assessments, not established findings of misconduct. **Shared votes do not prove collusion, and a Facebook restriction does not establish the reason for it.** The family anecdote is my recollection. The "oldest profession" title, jacket comparison, "Night Mayor," "Spendolini," spending-addiction language and cemetery postscript are rhetorical or satirical expressions; they do not allege sexual conduct, a medical condition, an actual treatment fund or a factual message from the deceased. Humour reflects frustration and my viewpoint; it does not substitute for evidence. Readers should examine the cited records and relevant responses. I welcome documented corrections and responses from anyone discussed. This disclaimer does not validate unsupported claims or remove responsibility for accuracy. I am willing to attest to my own recollections, but that is not independent corroboration of another person's words, intentions or conduct.

[4] The director's call, television remake, borrowed jacket and request to Tim are entirely fictional. This passage is a joke and satirical comparison with the Herb Tarlek character; no actual call, production or borrowing of a jacket is being reported.