Article 4 of 5 on O’Hare

A Special Series — Executive Summary

Some Assembly Required. Batteries Not Included.

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Headings and summary body only. Cartoon text, navigation notes, title block, sign-off, references and disclaimer excluded. Estimate uses 200 words per minute.

The question behind the campaign image

Tim O’Hare has a first-term record to explain. His campaign website contains priorities, committee roles, experience, testimonials and contact information. My assessment of the supplied screenshots, consistent with concerns residents have shared with me, is that they explain intentions and involvement more clearly than difficult decisions, costs and outcomes. That is not proof that explanations exist nowhere else. [1–3]

A campaign photograph establishes who was in the picture. It does not establish who asked the difficult question afterward. Voters need dates, reasons, costs and results. Even flat-pack furniture usually supplies numbered parts.

This is Article 4 of 5. The Special Edition remains separate. Part 5 examines public conduct and accountability. Disappointment expressed to me supplies context, not proof that O’Hare broke a commitment.

Promises need an instruction sheet

The website describes safer, healthier neighbourhoods, affordable housing, age-friendly initiatives, environmental protection and infrastructure improvements without heavy tax increases. These are legitimate priorities. The test is what was delivered during his first term and what remains an ambition. [1]

What counts as a heavy tax increase? Which projects require borrowing, reserves, grants or development revenues? For affordable housing, which land, partners, affordability standards, funding and completion dates are proposed? The screenshots do not provide that framework. Asking for particulars does not establish that he has no plan. [1]

A promise needs a baseline, an action, a timetable and a reported result. In my imagined fast-food parody: “WHERE’S THE BASELINE? WHERE’S THE ACTION? WHERE ARE THE RESULTS?” The substance matters more than the size of the bun.

Growth is not a personal trophy

The supplied introductory transcript describes Thorold as Ontario’s fourth fastest-growing city. The documented population increase—from 18,801 to 23,816, or 26.7 per cent—covers 2016–2021, before O’Hare’s first council term. It cannot fairly be counted as an achievement of his 2022–2026 service or treated as Thorold’s current ranking. [3–5]

The transcript’s October 24 voting reference is consistent with the 2022 campaign; the 2026 election is October 26. These passages must not all be presented as new 2026 promises. [3,5,13]

Growth requires infrastructure planning, not simply salesmanship. My Herb Tarlek comparison is satire: a memorable jacket cannot do the work of a servicing plan. Population growth alone does not demonstrate better affordability, reliable water pressure or stronger finances.

Satirical illustration follows.



Allanburg tests the promise

At 2248 Centre Street, residents raised traffic-safety and water-pressure concerns. The developer reduced a townhouse proposal from 15 homes to 10 and added sidewalks and parking. O'Hare supported the revisions; engineering staff expected a relatively small additional effect on the broader water-pressure problem. [6–7]

Approval passed 5–4, supported by O'Hare, Nella Dekker, Ken Sentance, Mike De Divitiis and Mayor Terry Ugulini. Anthony Longo argued that existing infrastructure problems should be addressed first. [7]

Why did O'Hare consider the revisions and advice sufficient? What monitoring or follow-up did he seek?

Supporting revised development is not automatically inconsistent with managed growth. The accountability question is whether his reasoning and follow-through met his own neighbourhood-compatibility standard. Residents should not receive an instruction sheet with the services page missing. [6–7]

Satirical illustration follows.



Canada Games Park needs a clear explanation

On October 3, 2023, O'Hare opposed Jim Handley's motion for an external legal opinion on Canada Games Park's financial arrangements and consortium agreement. It failed 5–4, with the same five members opposed. O'Hare cited experienced municipal lawyers' earlier advice and questioned further legal spending. His reason deserves acknowledgment. [8]

What information satisfied him that further advice was unnecessary while disclosure, costs and access remained debated? What alternative did he support? Refusing a second opinion does not automatically demonstrate thrift; its value depends on the question, cost and consequences of uncertainty.

O'Hare questioned management about unused courts and rinks in April 2023, so claiming he never scrutinized the facility would be inaccurate. He did not originate the 2021 agreement as a councillor. His subsequent oversight is the issue. Published documents help, but residents still need understandable explanations of obligations and options. [8–10]

Satirical illustration follows.



Matching votes still need individual reasons

I use UN-FAB FOUR for the alignment I perceive among O'Hare, Dekker, Sentance and De Divitiis. Allanburg and Canada Games Park establish agreement on two important votes—not a caucus, pact, coordination or an entire four-year pattern. [2,7–8]

Contrary evidence matters: O'Hare was the sole dissenter in the June 2024 vote to leave the Partners for Climate Protection program. A fair assessment must acknowledge that independence. Four matching votes still need individual explanations; council is not a dining set sold with one instruction sheet. [11]

Credit and accountability belong together

Favourable testimonials, age-friendly work and reported student wildlife projects at Port Robinson belong in the record. Community recognition is collective, not exclusively one councillor's achievement. His cemetery advocacy is consistent with inclusion, even where his preferred solution is disputed. Part 5 examines that controversy. [1,14–16]

A newsletter and published contact channels deserve acknowledgment, but do residents receive substantive answers? My recollection of restricted Facebook access does not establish why a restriction occurred or who controlled the account. An open inbox is a beginning, not a completed service. [1–2]

With six councillors and a mayor, preparation and independent scrutiny matter. A routine voting majority does not resolve every strong-mayor procedure. Regional representation changes do not themselves establish withdrawal of services. O'Hare should demonstrate how he would scrutinize budgets and build agreement beyond familiar allies. [13,17,19–22]

My conclusion: the supplied campaign material leaves important decisions insufficiently explained. Voters deserve a documented account of what he initiated, how he voted, why, what was delivered and what remains unfinished. Batteries may be optional in the joke. Explanations should not be.

Explanations should not be optional.

Continued in Part 5 of 5. The Special Edition remains separate from this series.

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References and verification notes

[1] Website screenshots supplied October 14, 2026. Ten screenshots of timohare.ca, covering the opening graphic, priorities, testimonials, budget and housing statements, committees, experience, newsletter and contact section. Evidence of the displayed campaign material, not a complete live-site or linked-page audit. https://timohare.ca/

[2] Nicholas Bozza earlier articles. Rookie City Councillor Tim O'Hare — A Record to Defend Part 1 of 5 Series; Tim-OHare-Part-2-of-5-Final; Tim-OHare-Part-3-of-5-Final. Versions available October 14, 2026 were consulted. Personal recollections and commentary are not independent corroboration. The earlier articles were consulted as background for Parts 4 and 5 of this series.

[3] Facebook material supplied by the author. Transcribed introduction and re-election closing, plus anniversary passage, supplied in this conversation. Video boundaries and dates have not been independently verified. Original links: https://www.facebook.com/share/19kGwAmpUc/ ; https://www.facebook.com/share/r/19qXm5GRwF/ ; https://www.facebook.com/share/r/19atBHbw9j/ . The anniversary passage is not independently matched to a particular link.

[4] Statistics Canada population comparison. Canada's fastest growing and decreasing municipalities from 2016 to 2021, Table 1. Comparison covers municipalities with at least 5,000 inhabitants. https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/as-sa/98-200-x/2021001/98-200-x2021001-eng.pdf

[5] Contemporary Ontario growth ranking. The Niagara Independent, Niagara home to one of Canada's fastest growing communities. Reports Thorold fourth in Ontario on the 2016–2021 comparison. https://niagaraindependent.ca/niagara-home-to-one-of-canadas-fastest-growing-communities/

[6] Original candidate priorities. Bernard Lansbergen, ThoroldToday, MEET YOUR CANDIDATE Retiree wants to help Thorold grow, September 9, 2022. https://www.thoroldtoday.ca/local-news/meet-your-candidate-retiree-wants-to-help-thorold-grow-5799197

[7] Allanburg decision and reasons. Bernard Lansbergen, ThoroldToday, ICYMI Allanburg townhouse complex divides city council, August 13, 2023; original report August 2. Reports the revisions, engineering advice and 5–4 vote. The underlying council minutes were not independently retrieved in this review. https://www.thoroldtoday.ca/local-news/icymi-allanburg-townhouse-complex-divides-city-council-7397760

[8] Canada Games Park legal opinion vote. Bernard Lansbergen, ThoroldToday, City council closes door on Canada Games Park investigation, October 4, 2023. Reports the October 3 debate and recorded vote. The minutes retrieval returned an access error; the vote is attributed to the reporting. https://www.thoroldtoday.ca/local-news/city-council-closes-door-on-canada-games-park-investigation-7639427

[9] Earlier Canada Games Park scrutiny. Bernard Lansbergen, ThoroldToday, Canada Games Park management grilled by Thorold City Council, April 12, 2023. https://www.thoroldtoday.ca/local-news/canada-games-park-management-grilled-by-thorold-city-council-6842804

[10] City consortium documents. City of Thorold, Canada Games Park Consortium. Official index includes agreements dated May 18, 2021, agendas, minutes and reports. This article does not calculate lifetime costs or provide a fresh legal interpretation of the agreements. https://www.thorold.ca/recreation-culture-community/canada-games-park/canada-games-park-consortium/

[11] Independent environmental vote. Richard Hutton, The Trillium, Partnership dissolved Thorold pulls out of climate program, June 20, 2024. Reports a 7–1 vote with O'Hare the sole dissenter. https://www.thetrillium.ca/municipalities-newsletter/partnership-dissolved-thorold-pulls-out-of-climate-program-9110746

[12] Ormond Street Tribunal decision. Ontario Land Tribunal, Milski Inc. v. Thorold City, OLT-22-003399, issued December 2, 2022. https://www.omb.gov.on.ca/e-decisions/OLT-22-003399-DEC-02-2022.pdf

[13] Official election information. City of Thorold, Elections. Six councillors and one mayor; mayor also serves regionally; 2026 Election Day October 26. https://www.thorold.ca/council-administration/elections/

[14] Age friendly recognition. City of Thorold, Ontario officially recognizes Eight Niagara Age-Friendly Communities at Award Ceremony, January 22, 2026. Recognition concerns collective community work. https://www.thorold.ca/news/news/ontario-officially-recognizes-eight-niagara-age-friendly-communities-at-award-ceremony/

[15] Cemetery proposal and outcome. Richard Hutton, ThoroldToday, Thorold moves to accommodate Muslim burials at Lakeview Cemetery, June 3, 2026. https://www.thoroldtoday.ca/local-news/thorold-moves-to-accommodate-muslim-burials-at-lakeview-cemetery-12371294

[16] Port Robinson wildlife work. ThoroldToday, City takes steps towards protecting Port Robinson wildlife, April 27, 2023. Report draws on City and partner statements. https://www.thoroldtoday.ca/local-news/city-takes-steps-towards-protecting-port-robinson-wildlife-6917726

[17] Official council size notice. City of Thorold, Province approves reduced Council size for the City of Thorold for the 2026 Municipal Election, May 26, 2026. https://www.thorold.ca/news/news/province-approves-reduced-council-size-for-the-city-of-thorold-for-the-2026-municipal-election/

[18] Ormond Street reporting and allegations. Bernard Lansbergen, ThoroldToday, Ormond Street developer wins case at Ontario Land Tribunal, December 12, 2022. Developer's allegations are attributed, not independently verified. https://www.thoroldtoday.ca/local-news/ormond-street-developer-wins-case-at-ontario-land-tribunal-6232577

[19] Changed regional representation. Richard Hutton, ThoroldToday, UPDATE Next mayor of Thorold will face a changed governance model, May 12, 2026. Used for the reported representation change, not as a legal analysis of regional powers. https://www.thoroldtoday.ca/2026-municipal-election-news/update-next-mayor-of-thorold-will-face-a-changed-governance-model-12266012

[20] Thorold strong mayor powers. City of Thorold, Council Meetings, Strong Mayor Powers section and published decisions. Confirms existing powers, delegation options and budget procedures. https://www.thorold.ca/council-administration/council/council-meetings/

[21] Regional governance and service review. Niagara Region, Governance Changes in Niagara. States that the Better Regional Governance Act does not itself change Regional programs, services or responsibilities; staff are reviewing municipal services separately. https://www.niagararegion.ca/government/council/governance-changes.aspx

[22] Shared service arrangements. Niagara Region, Shared Services. Describes collaboration, service agreements and current review activity; does not establish a general downloading of Regional services to Thorold. https://www.niagararegion.ca/government/shared-services/default.aspx

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[24] McCollum NDP biography. Canada's NDP, Chantal McCollum biography. Describes Welland residence; not an independently verified current municipal-election residence record. https://chantalmccollum.ndp.ca/

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[26] City clarification of Masud arrangements. City of Thorold, City of Thorold Statement Clarification Regarding Misinformation About Lakeview Cemetery, December 15, 2025. Attributes the Masud plot allocation to a corrected staff operational error; does not establish the authorization history of the earlier infant burial. https://www.thorold.ca/news/news/city-of-thorold-statement-clarification-regarding-misinformation-about-lakeview-cemetery/

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[28] Additional accounts supplied October 14, 2026. Nicholas Bozza's accounts and interpretations concerning Mal Woodhouse, the alleged remark about Italians and the reported June exchange with D'Angela. These are not independently verified quotations or findings. No original correspondence, firsthand statement or meeting timestamp was supplied for these particulars.

Disclaimer

This article contains my opinions and interpretations alongside information attributed to public sources and supplied campaign material. Personal recollections are not verbatim transcripts or independently corroborated findings. UN-FAB FOUR describes a perceived voting alignment, not an official caucus or a finding of collusion. Shared votes do not establish coordination, and disagreement with a decision does not prove incompetence or improper motives. The assessment does not claim that all website pages, newsletters, council records or four years of videos were reviewed. Video wording is based on supplied transcripts whose dates and boundaries remain unverified. Website observations concern the supplied screenshots. Reported allegations remain attributed allegations. Regional representation changes do not establish withdrawal of regional support or services. Readers should examine the cited sources and relevant explanations. I welcome documented corrections and a response from anyone discussed. This disclaimer does not validate unsupported claims or remove responsibility for accuracy. The fast-food customer and dialogue are imagined parody, with no restaurant endorsement implied. The WKRP illustration is satire; its attributed salesmanship quotation is the author's recollection, not an independently verified recording. No claim is made that O'Hare worked for IKEA.