My Four Picks for Thorold Council

Experience Today, Investment in Tomorrow

Thorold's next council will have six councillors instead of eight. At the Region, the next mayor will be Thorold's sole representative on a council made up of Niagara's 12 mayors and an appointed chair. Fewer local councillors and fewer elected voices at the regional table make independent judgment, full disclosure, preparation and the ability to do the job even more important. [1–2]

I want councillors who read the reports, test the advice, ask their own questions and explain their own decisions. I also expect a willingness to provide full disclosure wherever the law permits: costs, relevant conflicts and the reasons for decisions, with a clear explanation when information must remain confidential. Cooperation matters —but agreement should follow the evidence, not replace the homework.

My four choices are Carmen DeRose, Jim Handley, Ken Steeve and Kieran Daniels: two experienced councillors and two newcomers to council whom I believe can contribute now and help build Thorold's leadership for the long term. The two cartoons on page 2 put a satirical face on the same concerns behind my choices: independent judgment, full disclosure and clear answers for taxpayers.

Carmen DeRose — Experience and scrutiny

Carmen brings council experience and a record of questioning major financial commitments, including the Canada Games Park agreement. I value that willingness to challenge a proposal and seek answers that taxpayers can understand. [3]

Jim Handley — Experience and follow-through

Jim brings extensive council experience, including service he describes as acting deputy mayor, and he brought forward the motion seeking an external legal opinion on Canada Games Park. I value his willingness to pursue difficult questions and believe that experience will matter on a smaller council. [3–4]

Ken Steeve — Management and delivery

Ken describes senior executive experience managing complex projects, teams and substantial budgets, together with a commitment to independent, accountable representation. I see that background as valuable for weighing risks, controlling costs and helping a smaller council turn decisions into results. [5]

Kieran Daniels — Infrastructure and practical knowledge

Kieran brings more than 20 years of engineering-consulting experience and local committee service, according to his published background. I believe those skills can help council assess growth and infrastructure decisions now while investing in leadership for the years ahead. [6]

I will vote for these four, although I may vote for up to six. That is my personal choice: these are the four who have earned my confidence. My endorsement is of their individual ability and judgment; I do not expect them to vote as a unit. [7] These are my councillor endorsements. I will not comment on the mayoral race because I know both candidates personally.

Four names on my ballot. Independent judgment, full disclosure and the ability to do the work.

Nicholas Bozza
Registered Third-Party Advertiser — City of Thorold
nbozza@go2cai.ca | www.thoroldelectioncommentary.ca

Two Cartoons and One Standard

I have not endorsed any of the so-called UN-FAB FOUR. My recent articles at www.thoroldelectioncommentary.ca explain my views, and I invite you to read them. The cartoons below revisit that criticism.



Presentation is not the same as an explanation. This invented paint-and-curtain scene expresses my opinion about accessible public accountability.



Read the fine print. This imaginary crossing and celebrity dialogue are satire; no real visit, concert, invitation, endorsement or municipal payment is reported.

Cartoon note: all scenes, dialogue and props are invented. The named councillors are depicted in political satire. Shared votes do not establish secret coordination; the pictures do not prove wrongdoing or suggest support for my endorsements.

Sources and Editing Notes

These are the author's endorsements and assessments of suitability, not guarantees of future performance. Candidate biographies and campaign commitments are attributed to the candidates; they are not independent performance audits. "Newcomers" means new to council, not new to community service. Fewer regional representatives does not, by itself, establish reduced regional funding or services.

[1] City of Thorold — reduction from eight to six councillors.
https://www.thorold.ca/news/news/province-approves-reduced-council-size-for-the-city-of-thorold-for-the-2026-municipal-election/

[2] Niagara Region — Council; 2026 composition of 12 mayors and appointed chair.
https://www.niagararegion.ca/government-and-council/council-and-committees/council/

[3] ThoroldToday — October 4, 2023 reporting on Handley's motion and named votes.
https://www.thoroldtoday.ca/local-news/city-council-closes-door-on-canada-games-park-investigation-7639427

[4] Jim Handley — candidate statement, September 21, 2026; describes acting deputy mayor service.
https://www.thoroldtoday.ca/2026-municipal-election-news/know-your-candidates-david-jim-handley-12797620

[5] Ken Steeve — candidate statement, August 10, 2026; career and independent-representation commitments.
https://www.thoroldtoday.ca/2026-municipal-election-news/know-your-candidates-ken-steeve-12615362

[6] Kieran Daniels — candidate website; engineering background and committee roles.
https://www.kierandaniels.ca/

[7] City of Thorold — certified candidates; council ballot permits up to six choices.
https://www.thorold.ca/council-administration/elections/registered-candidates-third-party-advertisers/

Editing note: regional wording describes reduced elected representation. Handley's "acting deputy mayor" title follows his published statement. Kieran Daniels is the spelling on his website and the City's candidate list. Two cartoons selected: "Four on Un Four" and "The long and winding explanation."