Twas Day Before Elections: Top 3 Picks

Long form ● Poem and personal endorsements ● My top 3 in no particular order

By Nicholas Bozza | Thorold Election Commentary | October 25, 2026

A SHORT READ: about 4 minutes | 761 body words

Body only. Excludes titles, headings, illustration text, disclaimers, references and sign-offs. Time to view illustrations is additional.

For the companion executive summary, read "SHARE: New Illustration Satire and Some Not So New That You May Have Missed Along the Way" — ten cartoons in total — on my website.

Please share both editions and the website before election day—even if you have already voted.

'TWAS THE DAY BEFORE VOTING, AND ALL THROUGH THE TOWN,

The circus was hoping its tent wouldn't come down.
The UN-FAB FOUR had polished their act,
With plenty of sparkle—but where was the fact?

Their jackets were pressed and their posters looked bright;
The elephants still wouldn't leave for the night.
"Who ordered these?" somebody cried from the floor.
"They're unanswered questions. There's six hundred more."

Then who should arrive with a notebook and stick?
Thorold's own Bozza—disguised as St. Nick!

No sack full of presents, no sleigh full of toys,
Just questions that threatened to spoil all the noise.

"Now, Nella! Now, Sentance! De Divitiis and O'Hare!
You've had quite a run in that ring over there.
Before the next show, could you kindly explain?"
The band struck up loudly. He asked them again.

The ringmaster shouted, "Bring on the trapeze!"
St. Nick said, "Your voting records first, please."
They reached for the smoke, but the cupboard was bare—
"I've bottled the transparency!" came from somewhere.

Then Handley appeared: "Let's get on with the show."
Carm guarded the net: "No free passes, you know!"
Ken Steeve brought a plan and the right people too;
Beefer demanded, "And premium snacks for the crew!"

St. Nick checked his list, then addressed the whole tent:
"Your vote is no gift to the last incumbent.
Read up, make your choices—you're running this show.
You decide who stays—and who packs up to go!"

Then off went St. Nick, with one last little bite:
"Vote with your heads—and sleep well Monday night!"

Political satire: The poem's scenes, dialogue and numerical exaggerations are invented. "UN-FAB FOUR" is my label for a perceived political alignment involving Nella Dekker, Ken Sentance, Tim O'Hare and Mike De Divitiis, not evidence of coordination.

Jim Handley

My top 3 — in no particular order

Experience and leadership matter. I believe Jim Handley brings both, with the independence to ask questions and the confidence to speak his mind. Those are qualities I want at the council table.

The salon is imaginary. My endorsement is real.

He may have nothing left to colour, but in my books he still brings plenty of colour to Thorold—and he is still worth it! The shampoo savings are a bonus!



POLITICAL SATIRE • Invented scene. "Still worth it" expresses Nicholas Bozza's opinion. No endorsement by L'Oréal or actual statement by the company.
Nicholas Bozza • Registered Third-Party Advertiser — City of Thorold
nbozza@go2cai.ca • www.thoroldelectioncommentary.ca
Read and share before election day.

My endorsement is personal opinion. The illustrated scene and dialogue are invented. No affiliation with or endorsement by a referenced brand or employer is implied.

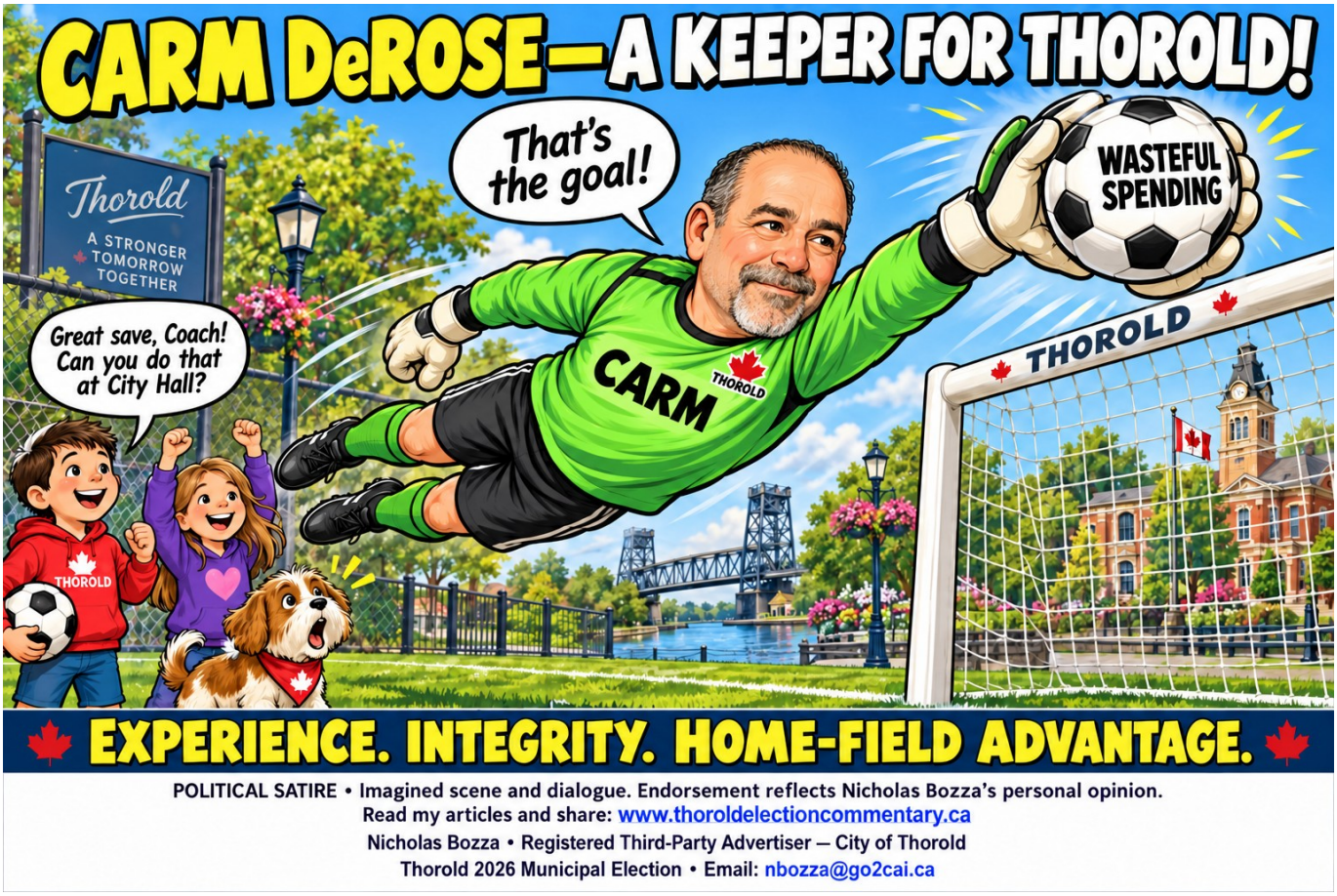
Carm DeRose

My top 3 — in no particular order

I've known Carm since grade school. Our parents knew each other, our dads worked at Fraser Paper, and Carm and I worked there as university students. Those summer jobs helped us along our paths, including Carm's journey to Clemson University on a soccer scholarship.

My endorsement reflects that lifelong connection and the integrity I believe Carm has demonstrated on council. His teaching, coaching and volunteering show his lasting commitment to Thorold.

This time, the home team is Thorold. Carm, keep your eye on the ball—and the taxpayers' money out of the back of the net!



My endorsement is personal opinion. The illustrated scene and dialogue are invented. No affiliation with or endorsement by a referenced brand or employer is implied.

Ken Steeve

My top 3 — in no particular order

I see Ken Steeve as a solid investment in Thorold's future. I value his management experience and ability to tackle complex projects. He understands that solving a large puzzle means knowing who to bring to the table—and when.

A sharp dresser is a bonus. His clear head and ability to put the pieces together earn my endorsement.

The missing piece is our support. Beefer has already submitted his conditions: transparency, a walk at six, and premium snacks. A demanding supervisor—but a dog of the people!



POLITICAL SATIRE • Invented dialogue. Endorsement reflects Nicholas Bozza's personal opinion.
Read my articles and share: www.thoroldelectioncommentary.ca
Nicholas Bozza • Registered Third-Party Advertiser — City of Thorold
2026 Municipal Election • Email: nbozza@go2cai.ca

My endorsement is personal opinion. The illustrated scene and dialogue are invented. No affiliation with or endorsement by a referenced brand or employer is implied. Political "investment" language is metaphorical, not a promise of results.

Please share my three picks and the companion ten-cartoon edition before election day. Already voted? You can still help someone else decide independently.

www.thoroldelectioncommentary.ca

One More Day to Make It Count

Please go out of your way to share

With one day to go, please share these articles and the website with friends, neighbours, family and anyone still deciding how to vote. Already voted? You can still help someone else make an informed choice.

Read the companion executive summary, "SHARE: New Illustration Satire and Some Not So New That You May Have Missed Along the Way", for ten cartoons—including the council-meal scene and the UN-FAB FOUR with their feet in cement. This long form explains my three personal picks.

www.thoroldelectioncommentary.ca

Two more articles and a post-mortem

I'm planning two more articles: an election-day last push and an overview the day after. Then I'm calling my physician colleagues—particularly my friend who is a part-time coroner. He can help with the political post-mortem.

Cause of defeat? We'll leave that for the examination. Possible contributing factors: unanswered questions, exhausted taxpayers, and a circus that forgot who buys the tickets.

The patient, of course, is public accountability. The election results will tell us whether Thorold prescribed a change.

The political post-mortem is a joke about analysing an election result. It does not refer to anyone's actual death or health and does not imply a physician's endorsement.

Please read both editions, share the website before election day, and vote with your own judgment.

Satire and endorsement notice: The poem and illustrated conversations are fictional political satire. Opinions and endorsements are Nicholas Bozza's own. The nickname UN-FAB FOUR does not establish a formal group or coordination. The salon, sports and talking-dog scenes are imagined, not quotations or factual accounts. No affiliation with or endorsement by L'Oréal, any candidate, employer or other referenced organisation is implied. Humour and medical metaphors are not medical advice or diagnoses.

References and context: Earlier articles and source discussions are available at www.thoroldelectioncommentary.ca. The poem is a parody of the traditional "A Visit from St. Nicholas".

Nicholas Bozza
Registered Third-Party Advertiser — City of Thorold
Thorold 2026 Municipal Election
nbozza@go2cai.ca