THOROLD ELECTION COMMENTARY (Thursday, November 12, 2026)

Lest We Forget to Turn the Camera Around

Remembrance Day and the UN-council UN-selfie

By Nicholas Bozza | Registered Third-Party Advertiser 2026 — City of Thorold | nbozza@go2cai.ca
678 body words | Just over 2 minutes at 300 UN-words per minute (UN-high-school pace)

POLITICAL OPINION AND SATIRE. The reported video selfie comes from one resident's account. I did not witness it and have not independently verified it. The account does not establish the councillor's intent. The committee, its findings, the training and the Weather Vain are fictional. Carly Simon's cameo and dialogue are invented. She had no role in the piece, and no endorsement is implied. The reported recording, its timing and context remain unverified. The satire draws no factual conclusion about motive or misconduct. The account is presented as a resident's recollection. It is not a finding of fact or evidence of a breach of any rule.

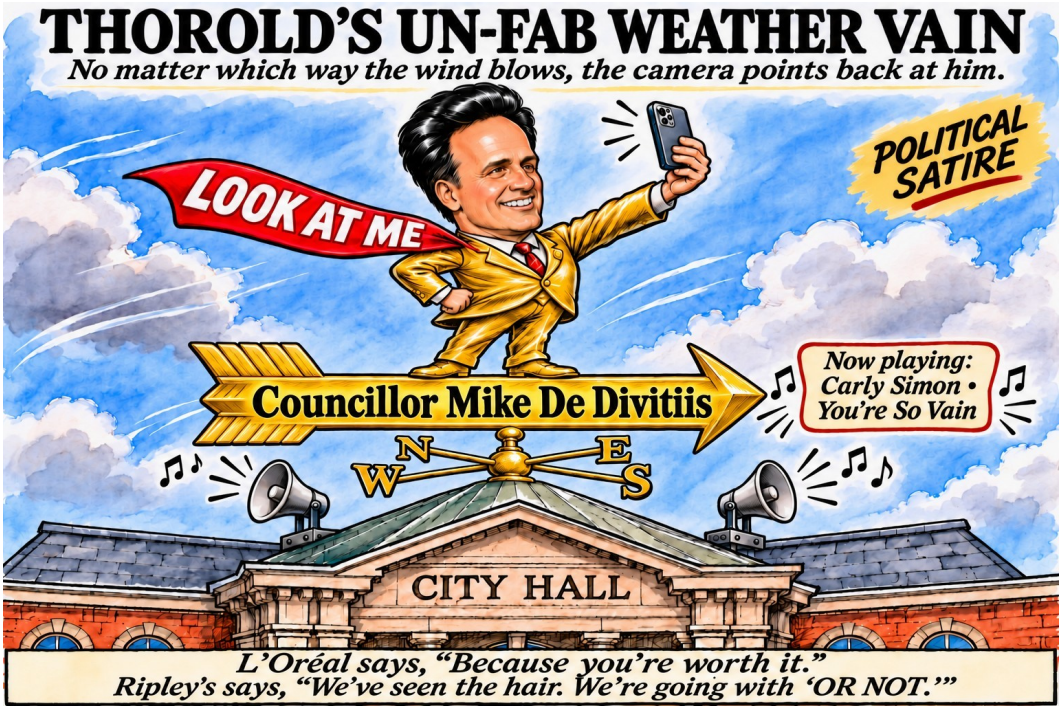
THOROLD GATHERED ON REMEMBRANCE DAY to honour those who served and sacrificed. A resident I know and trust told me that Councillor Mike De Divitiis was taking video selfies at the ceremony. I verily believe the resident's account, though I haven't independently confirmed it. Anyone who wants to verify it should check with people who were there. If the account is accurate, here's my question. Why make yourself the thumbnail at a ceremony about the people we came to remember?

In the imaginary minutes of the UN-FAB Selfie Committee, this is public self-exposure of the front-camera variety. The committee classified automatic exposure as **premeditated autofocus.** First-degree infraction. The motion to turn the camera around went to Operation Reverse Lens, a unit trained to rotate a phone 180 degrees without accidentally cutting a ribbon.

The operation UN-ravelled when somebody yelled, 'Get my good side!' and all four phones swung back in formation. The committee called it **second-degree aggravated retake.** Even the miners objected. They know where to point a headlamp. Please don't try this at home. An amateur could pull a muscle reaching for that much credit.

One voter suggested a nomination for the UN-FAB UN-Council Hall of Shame. Another person told me they were considering raising the matter with an ethics official. Some residents have told me they feel ignored or talked down to in their dealings with the councillor. That's how they describe their experience. Another person suggested an UN-FAB charm school orientation for this term for the UN-FAB FOUR who were re-elected. I talked the first voter out of pursuing a nomination or complaint. Mike, you're welcome. Then another voter handed me a satirical compromise. 'If you want to be that vain, put your picture on a weather vane.'

So up goes Thorold's UN-FAB Weather Vain, a gold-plated councillor on the roof of City Hall. North wind, south wind, the arrow turns, the tie flaps, and the camera still points at him. Carly Simon released "You're So Vain" in November 1972. Fifty-four Novembers later, a resident tells me UN-De Divitiis may have supplied the music video at Thorold's Remembrance Day ceremony. Now that's a day to remember. If the account is right, **even the front camera got a moment of reflection.** In my imaginary remake of 'You're So Vain,' Carly Simon gives him one direction. 'Look into the camera.' The crew says he's been ready since Tuesday. Another voter joked that UN-O'Hare would be jealous that De Divitiis got the Weather Vain. In my imaginary sequel, O'Hare moves to put his name on the wind.



POLITICAL SATIRE — FICTIONAL ILLUSTRATION. The Weather Vain, rooftop scene and dialogue are invented. This caricature does not document a recording, establish anyone's motive or imply endorsement by Carly Simon or anyone depicted. The illustration is neither a photograph nor a reconstruction of the Remembrance Day ceremony. The resident's account remains unverified.

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Only You Can Prevent UN-Council UN-Selfies

Naturally, there's a petition in the works in Satire Land. Before enrolling in the UN-FAB FOUR-Step Program at the fictional Centre for Attention Withdrawal Syndrome, UN-councillors must pass the two-step entrance exam.

1. Put the phone down.

2. Resist the urge to post a video announcing that you put the phone down.

The imaginary clinic also offers Defensive Driving for EGO-Driven UN-FAB Councillors. The hardest part of the road test is going a whole block without checking your approval rating in the rear-view mirror. Graduates get a certificate suitable for framing. Ask for a photo with it and you're back in the parking lot with the instructor.

Our imaginary UN-Selfie Hotline used to take volunteers. Now the operators train with hostage negotiators. Their first exercise is talking a phone down from a fully extended arm. For an UN-selfie at the wheel, park first, then press one. If there's a child in the back seat, press two and ask who's supervising the grown-up. Near a school or university rental, press three for a teacher who can explain that 'all eyes on me' expires at the bell.

Even the bear has weighed in. 'Only YOU can prevent UN-council UN-selfies. If you see an UN-Councillor taking one, run to an adult for help. If the adult asks you to shoot it in portrait mode, **keep running.**'

For November 11, 2027, I'd suggest a simple rule. If you want to show us who we came to remember, **turn the camera around.**

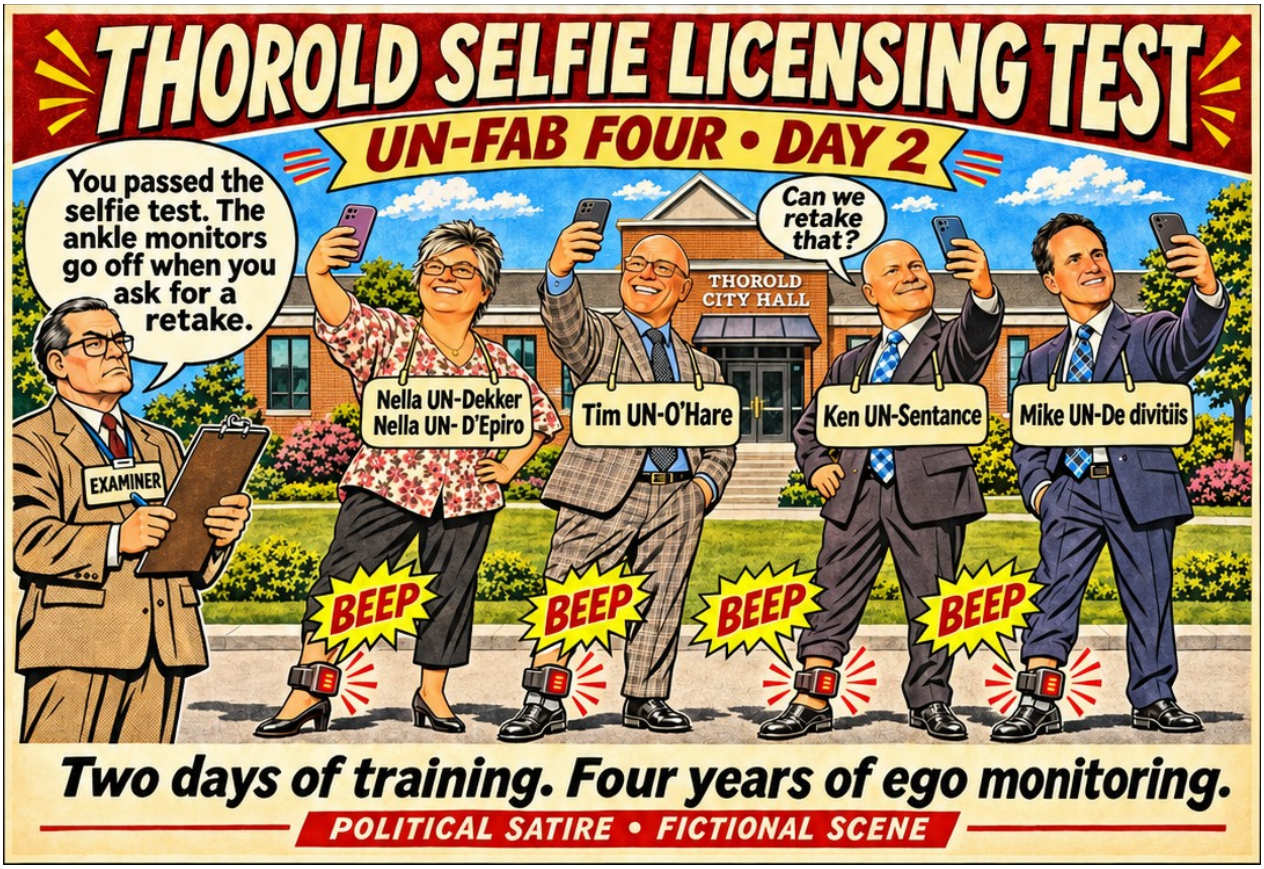
See the two satirical illustrations on the next two pages.



POLITICAL SATIRE — FICTIONAL ILLUSTRATION. The group selfie and bear's warning are invented. This caricature does not show an actual gathering, recording or incident and makes no allegation about anyone's conduct around children. The characters' poses and words are fictional. The illustration makes no claim that anyone shown took part in the reported Remembrance Day incident.

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Another satirical illustration follows on the next page.



POLITICAL SATIRE — FICTIONAL ILLUSTRATION. The licensing test, ankle monitors and dialogue are invented. This caricature does not depict a real test, monitoring order, sanction or offence and makes no allegation of unlawful conduct. The scene does not suggest that any person shown was investigated, charged, convicted or subjected to official supervision.

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POLITICAL OPINION AND SATIRE. The group selfie, Hall of Shame, petition, clinic, hotline, road test and bear's speech (including the cartoon ankle monitors) are fictional. The driving, child passenger, school and rental scenarios are invented and make no allegation about anyone's conduct. The hotline is a parody. References to an ethics official describe a conversation about a possible complaint. This article reports no filing, investigation, finding or breach of an ethics rule. Any accompanying cartoons are caricatures and imply no endorsement. 'UN-FAB FOUR' is a satirical label for a perceived voting alignment. I allege no official caucus, secret agreement, unlawful coordination, offence or criminal conduct. Dialogue attributed to public figures in the imagined scenes is invented. The illustrations are fictional caricatures. The mock infractions and penalties are jokes. They do not describe any actual charge, sanction, disciplinary action or official finding.

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