

## Lord Mayors Report – October 29, 2024 Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa

## September 2024

**September 27** - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Ceremony at Town Hall. This important day encourages Canadians to reflect on the historical legacy of the residential school system, educate ourselves on its lasting impact on Indigenous Peoples, and offer support to the many families and communities that have been affected. Council and Staff were joined by the Strong Water Singers, who performed at the ceremony.

**September 28** - I had the honour of attending a wedding vow renewal with a special couple from the East Coast. They were thrilled to receive a certificate from the Town to commemorate their anniversary, and it was a pleasure to attend the tiny Chapel.

## October 2024

**October 9**—Niagara-on-the-Lake Hydro hosted an open house at the Community Centre. The event included presentations on heat pumps and electric vehicles. Residents were encouraged to attend and engage with the presenters and NOTL Hydro Staff.

**October 11** – Queenston Volunteer Firefighters Spaghetti Dinner at the Queenston Fire Station. Congrats to the Association for their commitment to our community. Cllr Burroughs, MPP Gates.

**October 11**  $-2^{nd}$  Annual Croatian Canadian Thanksgiving Fundraiser at the Croatian National Centre. I was pleased to welcome the guests and congratulate their volunteers, who were then treated to Thanksgiving dinner and a dance.

**October 12**—Queenston Volunteer Firefighters' 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at the Queenston Fire Station. I was honoured to attend the ceremony and present a plaque recognizing 75 years of dedicated service to Niagara-on-the-Lake. MP Baldinelli and Ontario Office of the Fire Marshal representatives joined me.

October 17 – Frankenmuth Councillor John Kaczynski brought delegates from Saginaw Valley State University to Niagara College. I had the opportunity to introduce them to Niagara College President Sean Kennedy and other key staff members, followed by a tour of the Niagara-on-the-Lake campus. We participated in the graduate final exam luncheon.

**October 17**—Ambassador Appreciation Event at the Pillar & Post Barn. I had the pleasure of attending and thanking the Ambassadors for another successful summer season. They do a tremendous job, and we are thankful for their time and commitment to Niagara-on-the-Lake. Councillor Niven and CAO Zvaniga joined me.



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**October 18** – 102<sup>nd</sup> Battle of Queenston Heights Memorial Dinner at Navy Hall. Thank you to the organizing committee and the many attendees, from our service men and women to those serving in the public and emergency services. MP Baldinelli and rep from MPP Gates office joined me.

**October 23 –** NOTL Library Open House. Library Board members, Staff, Councillor Vizzari. Raising awareness of services, such as family and children related health and education.

**October 24**—Frank Miele, Economic Development Officer—Grimsby, brought delegates from Baguio City, Philippines, to the courthouse for a meeting. Our Economic Development Officer, CAO, and Past Lord Mayor Art Viola joined me.