

Agenda Tonight – Ron Simkus

Director/Administrator

- The NOTLRA today
- Thanks to Committee Members
- Why are we here?
- What are our goals?
- How are we going to achieve them?

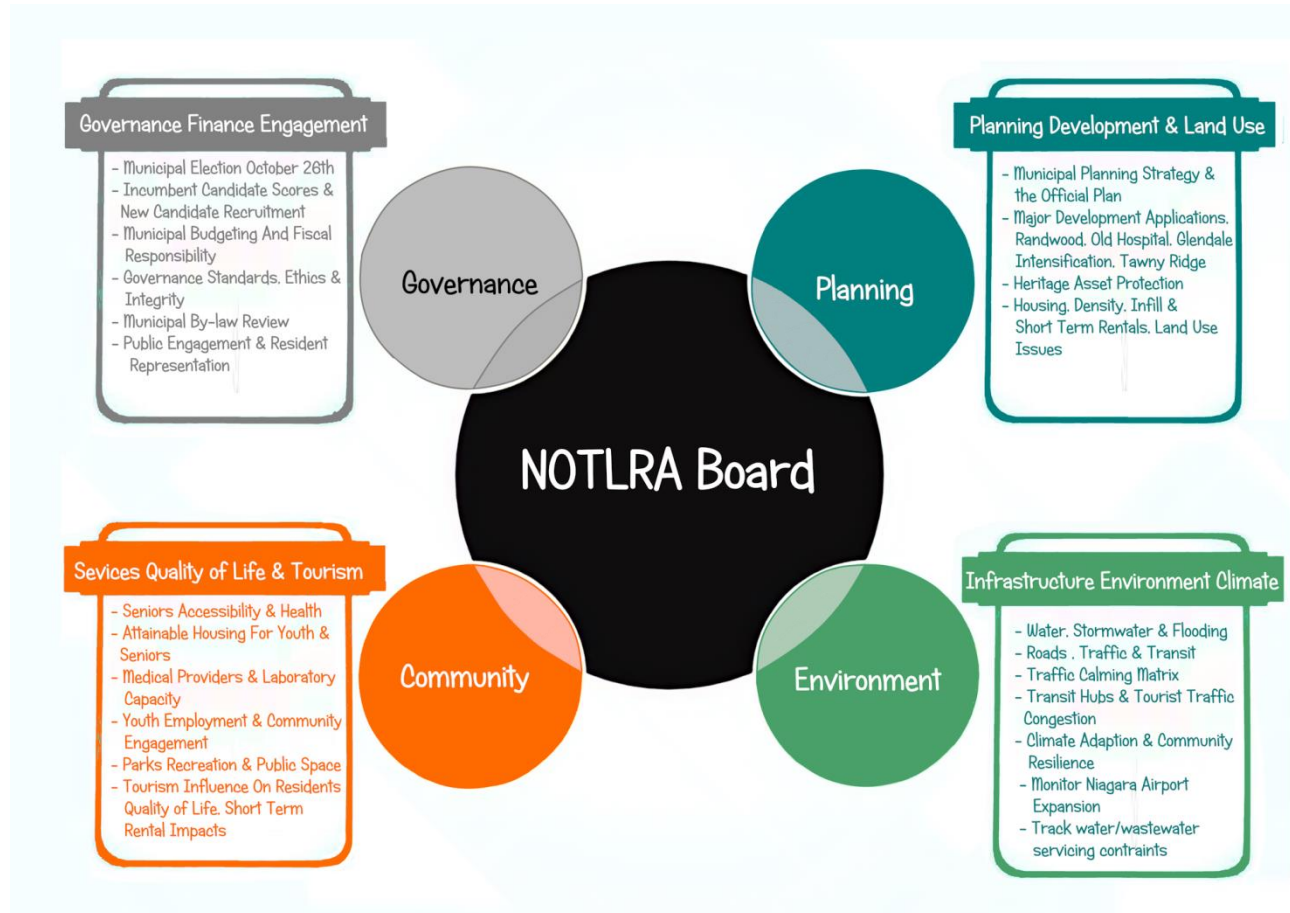
From Ratepayers to Residents

- Our initiative originally was to be a ratepayers group to advocate for the interests of residential taxpayers first
- After our first public meeting the board of directors pivoted to become a residents association



Committee Structure – Why?

**Diverse
Resident
Concerns
Raised**



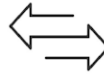
**Common
Thread of
Concerns
Raised**

Board needed to delegate to those most knowledgeable to understand them!

Committees & Board Liaison

1. Governance, Finance and Civic Engagement

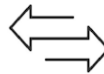
- Bob Bader - bader.robert@gmail.com
- Steve McGuinness - stevemcguinness94@gmail.com
- Alan Young - alanyoung333@gmail.com
- Judy Thornton - midnightbug@hotmail.com
- Terry Davis - tdavis3011@gmail.com
- Caroline Polgrabia - caroline.polgrabia@yahoo.ca
- Lauren Davidson - laurendavidson0217@gmail.com



Stuart McCormack
President/Chair
senotl2013@gmail.com

2. Community Services, Quality of Life and Tourism

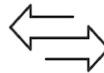
- Brenda Tipper - btipper@gmail.com
- Kim Friesen - kfriesen3@cogeco.ca
- Peter Jamieson - 1pcjamieson@gmail.com
- Pat Jeselon - patjeselon@gmail.com
- Michael Ennamorato - mennamorato@gmail.com
- Teri Andrusiw - teri.andrus1969@gmail.com
- Nathalie Carrasco-Krentzien - carrasco.nathalie@gmail.com



Andrea Leja
Director & Board Secretary
andrea.leja@icloud.com

3. Infrastructure, Environment and climate Resilience

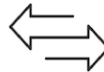
- Frances Stocker - stockerfrances@yahoo.ca
- Phil Bergen - bergen.phil@gmail.com
- Richard Connelly - richardwconnelly@gmail.com
- Dr. Keith Kennedy - watermatters21c@gmail.com
- Kip Voegel - ksvoegel@gmail.com
- Dr. Rod Tennyson - rctennyson@aol.com



Steve Hardaker
Director & Vice-Chair
hardaker.sp@sympatico.ca

4. Planning, Development and Land Use

- Gordon Stratford - gcstratford@gmail.com
- Brian Marshall - homeguide.ca@gmail.com
- David Jones - davidj@124queen.com
- Lidija Biro - lbiro@mac.com
- Vince Peca - vince.peca@rogers.com



Peter Neame
Director
ppneame@gmail.com

Why are we here?

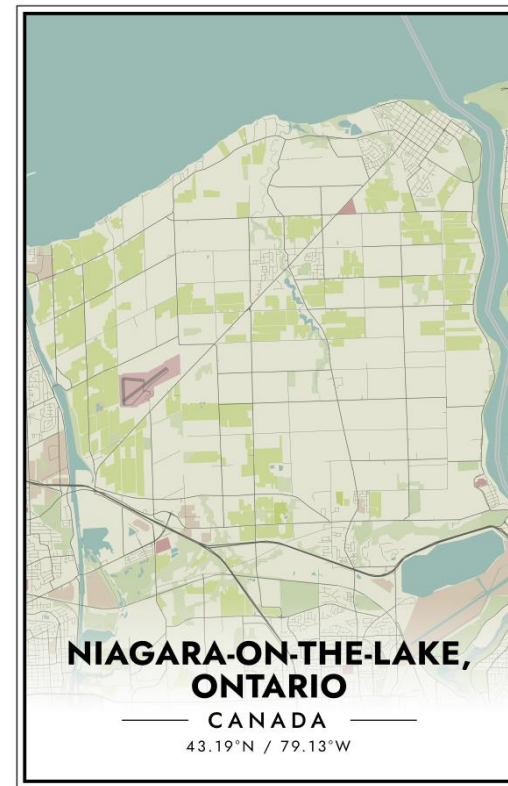


Dating back to 2024 there was a watershed of frustration with staff and council looking for direction

What are our goals?

To balance between a “pretty town”
façade marketed for hire

And a diverse, growing & resilient
community for families



Different Approach (External)

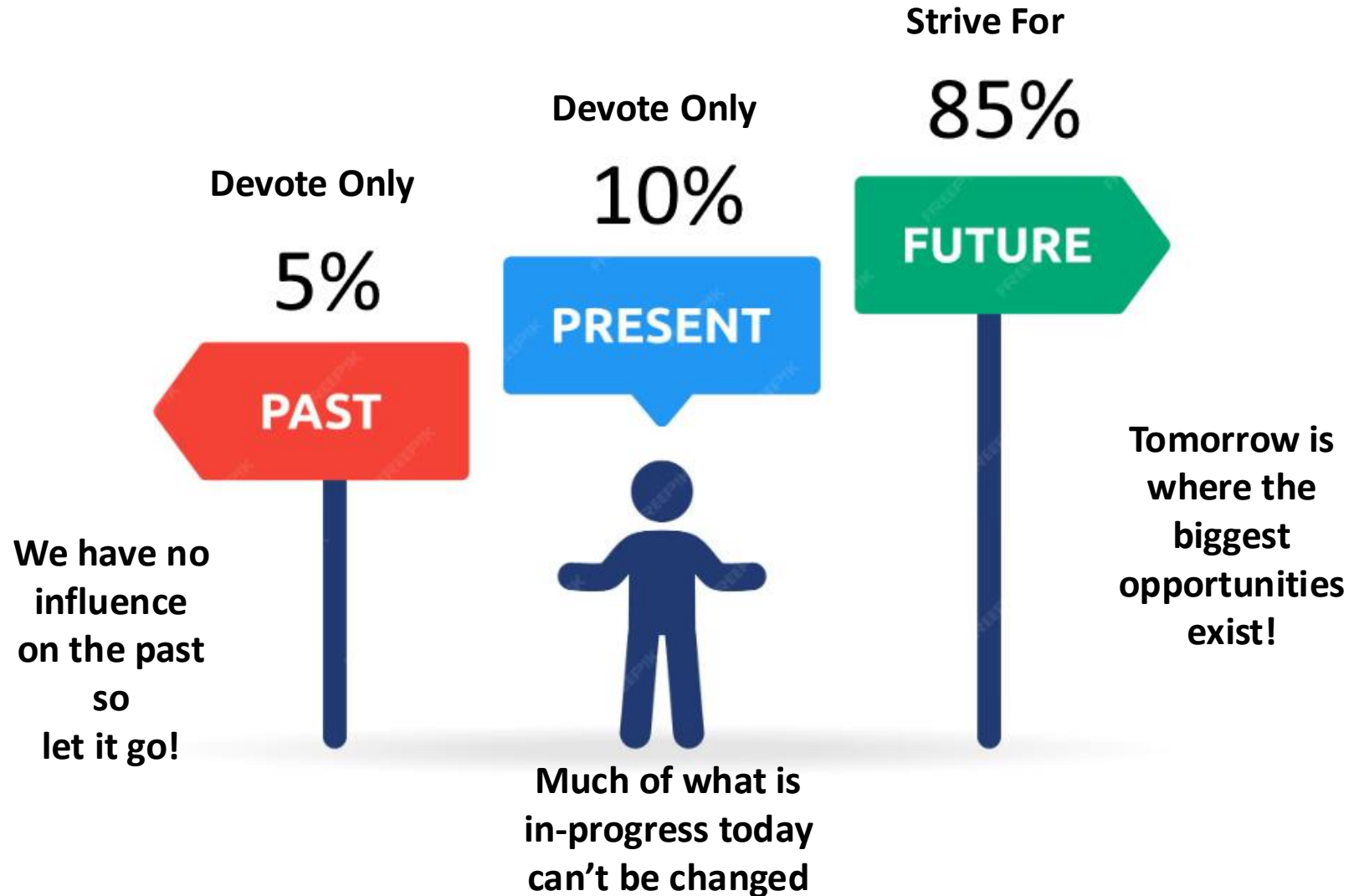
- **Focus on staff's recommendations to council**
- **Watch how 'Strong Mayor' powers influence staff**
- **Remove subjectivity, bias and rumour**
- **Adopt a 'what' versus 'why' vocabulary**
- **Stop branding people 'stupid', 'evil' and 'malicious'**

Different Approach (Internal)

‘If it’s not a problem for me it’s not a problem at all?’

- **NOTLRA is not just another Old Town Association**
- **We need to understand how our issues are all connected**
- **The committees have to ‘cross-pollinate’ to be effective**
- **We need to be consistent in our public communication**
- **We have to be highly, respectful and ethical**

Managing Our Time With A Forward Looking Focus



Getting The Message Out

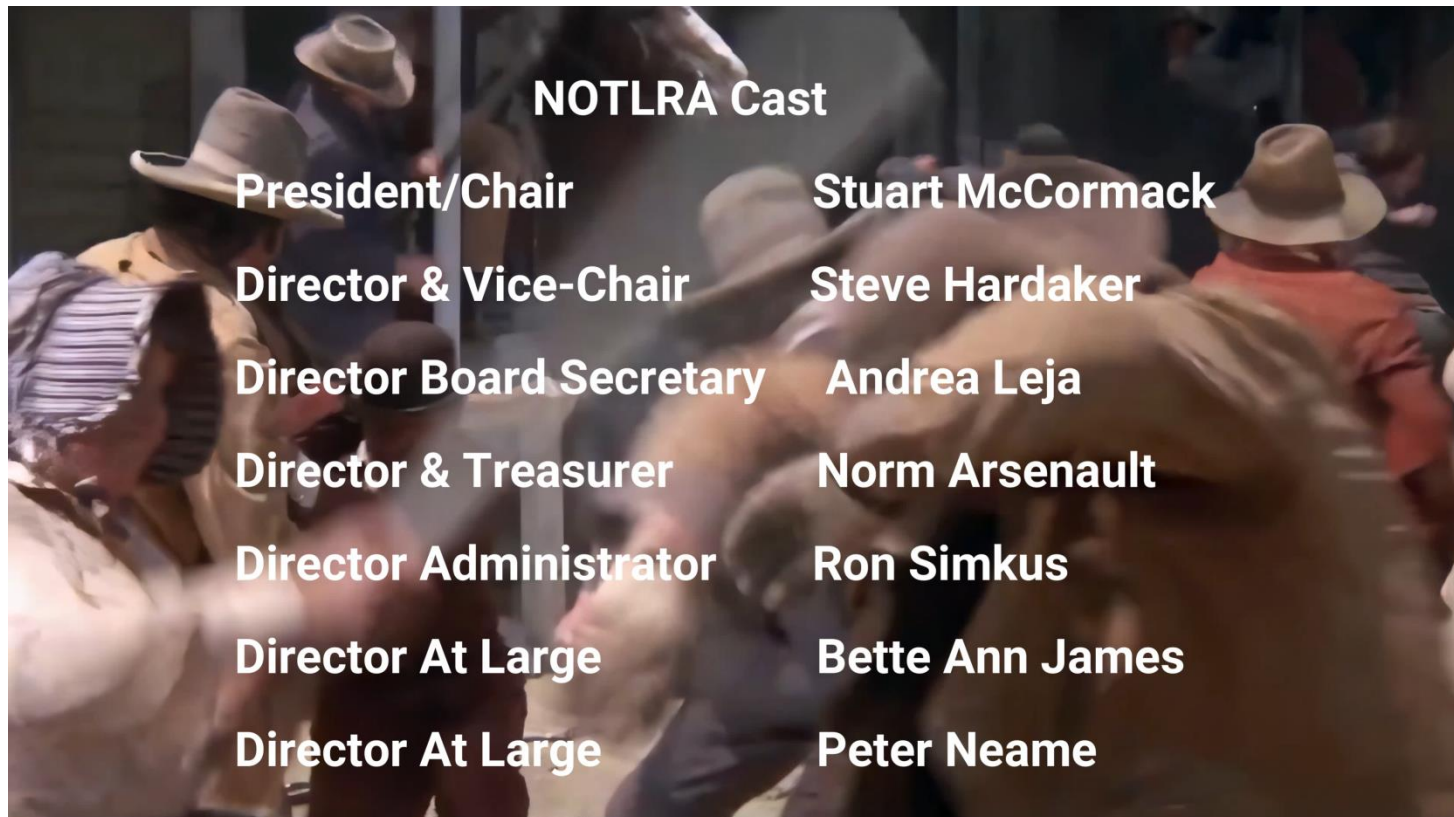


Sometimes we have to ask ourselves whether doing a good job
communicating

A Focus On Communication

- 1. Meetings Have A Purpose – The Committee packages describe the appointment and role of committee chairs, efficient adherence to agendas, taking of minutes and some elements of Rob's Rules.**
- 2. Email Traffic – Setting up smaller committee networks and avoiding 'reply all'**
- 3. Meetings by Remote – Zoom and Microsoft Teams are available for meetings without destinations, I believe most members are familiar with one or both of the apps available, Saves travel time and money.**
- 4. Delegations – Delegations to Council are supposed to be only 10 minutes long and almost nobody succeeds in getting their message across in that short window. We will focus on a PowerPoint methodology of 5 slides max and 5 lines of text per slide. Sounds tough to do and it is!**
- 5. External Communication - We are a transparent association and try to communicate openly through the press, to town staff and elected councillors but the Board of Directors needs to manage the message. The NOTLRA Board of Directors is accountable to be accurate, respectful and consistent so the directors need to be the members who do the talking externally.**

Thank you for embracing a new approach!



Rock Ridge 1974

NOTL Residents Association

Our Town! Our Future!

A photograph of three dogs sitting on a light-colored wooden floor in a kitchen. On the left is a white dog, in the center is a black and white dog with brown markings, and on the right is a golden retriever. They are all looking towards the camera. The background shows dark wooden kitchen cabinets.

Questions?