

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Clarifies Its Role Ahead of Municipal Election

Aurora, ON — [Oct. 7, 2026] — The Aurora Chamber of Commerce will not host an all-candidates meeting or mayoral debate during this year's municipal election. While the Chamber has hosted these events in the past, the decision reflects a greater focus on directing its resources toward initiatives that supports its members.

The Chamber strongly encourages Aurora residents to learn about the candidates, engage in the democratic process and vote. However, as an independent, non-profit business membership organization, the Chamber's primary responsibility is to serve and advocate for its members.

In previous election years, Chamber-hosted all-candidates meetings have been well attended, but audiences have consisted largely of residents rather than Chamber members. In addition, many Chamber members own or operate businesses in Aurora but live in other municipalities and are therefore unable to vote in Aurora's municipal election.

"Our responsibility is to look carefully at where we can have the greatest impact for our members," says Alison Mumford, Executive Director of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce. "While municipal elections are incredibly important to the community, hosting a public candidate meeting or debate does not directly serve a significant portion of our membership. We are choosing instead to focus our time and resources on advocacy and programming around the issues our businesses are telling us matter most."

The Chamber continues to strengthen its advocacy at the municipal, provincial and federal levels by connecting members directly with elected officials and providing timely information and resources on issues affecting their businesses. Current efforts include discussions and information sessions on tariffs, trade uncertainty and available relief measures, while giving businesses opportunities to share firsthand challenges that can help inform the Chamber's advocacy priorities. At the municipal level, the annual Mayor's Luncheon provides members with an opportunity to hear directly from Aurora's sitting mayor, and discuss business priorities in a business-focused forum that is distinct from an election or campaign event.

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce remains committed to connecting businesses, advocating for their needs and providing programs, resources and opportunities that help its members navigate challenges and grow.

Alison Mumford, Executive Director

Aurora Chamber of Commerce

For questions or further information, Chamber members are encouraged to contact Executive Director Alison Mumford directly.