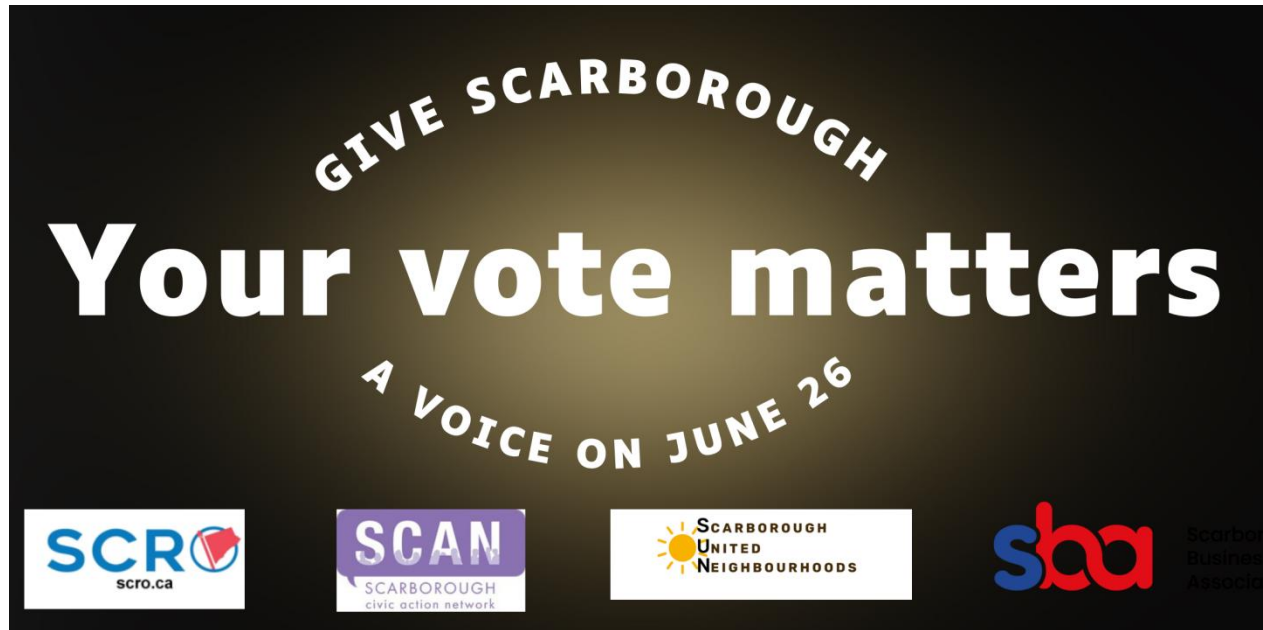
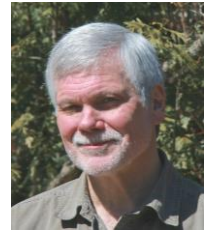


PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Your Vote Matters!

Give Scarborough a Voice on June 26.



Greetings, fellow Scarborough residents. I have nothing but good news this month ... and a call to action for all of us, as we launch the ***“Scarborough Votes”*** campaign.

The Mayoral Candidates Debate on Scarborough Issues pulls Scarborough together.

SCRO was honoured to co-host the Mayoral Debate on Scarborough Issues on May 24. This has turned out to be one of the signature events in this mayoral election.

This debate has put Scarborough “in play” during this election. More on that below.

SCRO pulled together a team of talented, passionate, and fully committed leaders that showcased the best of Scarborough. I want to thank the [Scarborough Business Association](#), [Scarborough United Neighbourhoods](#), and [Scarborough Civic Action Network](#) for their deep involvement. Seldom have I seen a team pull together so quickly and so seamlessly to present such a well-organized event. All the more remarkable: everyone on the organizing team were volunteers.

SCRO’s mission is to *“connect, promote and renew Scarborough”*. We do this by pulling together Scarborough’s many voices to create a sense of pride in the place we have all chosen to call home and by drawing attention to those areas where we need help. The questions posed during the debate, which were crafted by our “questions committee” from more than 500 suggestions (wow!) reflected the many and varied concerns of Scarborough residents, businesses, and community organizations. Scarborough is a community of communities. We want all of our communities to be heard during the political process.

SCRO thanks [University of Toronto Scarborough](#), [CityNews](#), and Tamil One TV, who were terrific partners to work with. Their contributions made the work of our organizing committee much more impactful.

We also thank our sponsors for helping to cover our costs:

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[Scarborough Civic Action Network](#)

[Scarborough Passport Rotary Club](#)

Scarborough is in play in this election. Let's all get on board.

The debate brought media attention to Scarborough. Scarborough is now being described as the "battleground" in this election. Since the debate, mayoral candidates have been contacting Scarborough leaders, wanting to know more about Scarborough issues.

We have often complained that politicians ignore Scarborough. But it doesn't have to be that way this time. Scarborough can be influential in the outcome of this election ... *but only if we vote!*

The "Scarborough Votes" campaign is under way. Spread the word.

In the 2022 election, [voter turnout in Scarborough was below the Toronto average](#). Sadly, this isn't uncommon. When this happens, Scarborough's influence on election outcomes is diminished and voters in other parts of Toronto make decisions for us.

Let's increase Scarborough voter turnout! SCRO and our community partners are promoting the importance of voting in this election, where the winning margin may be much thinner than in a more typical election. Therefore, ***Your Vote Matters!*** Let's make Scarborough a "squeaky wheel" in this election.

A groundbreaking donation to U of T Scarborough ... from a Scarborough entrepreneur

On May 15, [UTSC announced a gift from Scarborough-born entrepreneur Sam Ibrahim](#) of \$25 million to help build the *Sam Ibrahim Centre for Inclusive Excellent in Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Leadership* at UTSC.

It is gratifying to see such high impact philanthropy from a Scarborough-born entrepreneur, whose business is located right here in Scarborough.

Earlier this year, [SHN received a transformative gift of \\$50 million from Orlando Corporation](#). Orlando made a concurrent gift of \$25 million to U of T Scarborough to help launch a medical school in Scarborough. Wow!

Good things are happening here in Scarborough. We see it and we feel it. And now we're being noticed by major donors, in our backyard and beyond, who are helping to fund transformative education for our young people and better healthcare for us all.

Larry Whatmore

President

Scarborough Community Renewal Organization

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