



✓ Carol MERTON FOR MAYOR City of Owen Sound

Experienced. Connected. Ready to Lead.

I AM RUNNING FOR MAYOR BECAUSE:



Safe & Welcoming Neighbourhoods

Our residents and visitors deserve to feel safe and welcome in our neighbourhoods.



A Vibrant Downtown & Public Spaces

Our streetscape and City facilities should be inviting, clean and vibrant for all ages.



Affordable Housing & Local Opportunity

We need local employment opportunities and affordable housing so youth can stay or return home.



Responsible Management of Tax Dollars

Our tax dollars must be used responsibly to address the needs of our current and future residents.

10 REASONS TO VOTE FOR CAROL MERTON:

- 1 I have experience as a City Councillor for the last 8 years.** I see the urgent needs in our community regarding affordability, housing, addictions, mental health and employment.
- 2 I care.** I represent and speak up to serve our community in my role as an elected official.
- 3 I make decisions based on information and apply best practices for solutions that can work here in Owen Sound.** I roll up my sleeves, pitch in, do the homework and dig deep for decisions that benefit our City.
- 4 I connect.** I have linkages with many groups that benefit our community.
- 5 I have leadership and management experience** gained through a career in health care and business.
- 6 I have financial skills and experience** in organizations with responsibility for multi-million dollar budgets.
- 7 I understand** the importance of building relationships to work together and voice the needs of rural municipalities in all forums.
- 8 I have a proven track record** of working in high stress environments and project completion within tight deadlines.
- 9 I listen** to hear and understand others with differing perspectives, backgrounds and lived experiences.
- 10 I continue to step up and step forward** to serve this city and our community.



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Carol Merton for Owen Sound Mayor



FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

I know that residential taxes are still higher than is financially comfortable for many in our community. We need to review our operating and capital budgets with the wide view of what we need in our budget to maintain critical and core services and facilities. Even small changes can help. During the time I served on the Owen Sound City Service Review Ad Hoc Committee in my position as Chair of the Operations Committee, more than \$1 Million dollars in operational savings was achieved.

I voted in favour of the Green Bin program to reduce garbage 40-50 % and cut the purchase of bag tags required. This program diverted 285.36 tonnes of organic waste from the landfill. We can do this!



AFFORDABLE HOUSING

I know the current and future need for affordable housing in our City. A focus on building affordable employment housing will support economic growth and vitality in our manufacturing business, service, health care and retail sectors. There are opportunities to tap into future economic development in the Nuclear Energy and Medical Isotope sector as well as the Bruce Power refurbishment and expansion plans.

We need an Owen Sound Affordable Housing Action Working Group for employment and non-profit housing options. We need to add other finance tools to assist non-profit developers and mixed-model affordable housing building options.

I was a Board member on the Owen Sound Municipal Non Profit Housing Corporation and the Owen Sound Housing Company when a 60-unit apartment building geared for lower income residents in our City was built.

I voted in favour of the building permit fee forgiveness for Lutheran Social Services St. Clare Place to speed up the building of a 40-unit affordable and seniors housing apartment project in downtown Owen Sound.

I have learned through the Institute of Southern Georgian Bay that there is more that can be done to bring community support and dollars to the affordable housing table.



A CLEAN, INVITING, & VIBRANT DOWNTOWN

I know that we need to make sure our City and the downtown River District area is clean, inviting, active and vibrant. We need regular garbage pickup and rapid response to concerns regarding downtown issues and incidents. Our downtown businesses, service agencies and non-profit organizations need support. We need aggressive marketing to entice businesses and entrepreneurs to set up business here in Owen Sound and encourage present businesses to stay.



I have the experience and am willing to step up to be Mayor for the City of Owen Sound.



**VOTE CAROL MERTON FOR OWEN SOUND MAYOR
IN THE 2026 MUNICIPAL ELECTION**



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