



DURHAM WEST ARTS CENTRE

- Dance
- Theatre
- Poetry
- Sculpture
- Photography
- Recording Studio
- Cultural Events
- Puppetry
- Pottery
- Festivals
- School Tours
- Watercolours
- Acrylics
- Prints
- Studio Space
- Teaching Space
- Rehearsal Space
- Arts Seminars
- Vocal Music
- Instrumental Music
- Writers' Classes
- Book Clubs
- Oil Painting
- Drama Activities
- Arts Camps
- Mixed Media
- Graphics
- Mime
- Fabric Arts
- Drawing
- Readings

March 20, 2006: Ajax-Whitby By-election Candidates

Dear Sirs and Madams,

The Durham West Arts Centre, located in Ajax, is a charitable arts organization dedicated to growing support for a permanent performing arts centre for west Durham. We completed a year long study (Economic Impact and Needs Analysis of the Arts in Durham, Faulkner 2005) that demonstrated that at least 10 million dollars annually leave Durham as visual artists and performers pursue opportunities in areas of the province that have adequate arts facilities. (See dwac.ca/restOfStory/STOPleakage.html Economic Impact Study Summary)

The Executive Directors of the Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Clarington Visual Arts Centre, Whitby Station Gallery and Durham West Arts Centre have formed an alliance to promote professional arts venues in Durham. We will launch May as (Art) Museum Month on April 28 at 9:30 a.m. at the Robert McLaughlin Gallery in Oshawa. We do this with the support of the Canadian Museum Association and the Tourism Department of the Region of Durham. We invite you ALL to speak at this event—not just the successful candidate. It is important that the arts receive the support of all those aspiring to office. Who knows what the future holds?

Additionally, we would appreciate if each of you could respond to the following question as we will place your responses on the DWAC website www.dvac.ca which receives over 1000 hits a day.

Please outline your general position on support for the arts and specifically indicate what you would do, if elected, to stop the leakage of arts dollars from Durham?

Replies to be posted to <http://www.dvac.ca/restOfStory/askTheCandidates.html>

Thank you for answering this question and for your community-mindedness in running for office. We appreciate your time and dedication to the Whitby-Ajax community.

Yours truly,

Angie Littlefield, Executive Director
Durham West Arts Centre

Durham West Arts Centre • Educating • Inspiring • Preserving our artistic heritage