

## KAREN Jones – Profile

I was born and raised in Niagara-on-the-Lake, and I am incredibly proud to call this community home. My family's roots here stretch back generations.

In 1945, my grandmother, Ruth Petrolia Taylor, became the first woman elected to Council for the Town of Niagara. My grandfather, Bertram Andrew Taylor, served as Postmaster of Niagara-on-the-Lake, followed by my father, Bertram Aitken Taylor. My mother, Betty Taylor, was also deeply involved in our community and helped spearhead the Shaw Festival.

Public service and community involvement have always been part of my family's story. In many ways, running for Council feels like continuing that tradition, not simply because generations before me served, but because they believed Niagara-on-the-Lake was worth showing up for.

I believe that too.

Niagara-on-the-Lake has an extraordinary history. Once known as Newark, it served as the first capital of Upper Canada. That history is more than something we celebrate with plaques and landmarks; it is part of the identity of our town. As we grow, we have a responsibility to protect the heritage, agricultural lands, character and charm that make Niagara-on-the-Lake unlike anywhere else.

Today, I continue my own involvement in the community as an Executive member of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 124, where I am responsible for Ways and Means, and as Treasurer of the Ladies Auxiliary.

I believe strong communities are built by people who are willing to show up, listen, help and speak up when something matters. That is why I am running for Council.

I care deeply about the future of all five communities that make up Niagara-on-the-Lake: Old Town, Virgil, St. Davids, Queenston and Glendale. Each has its own identity, its own needs and its own role in the future of our town.

Growth is inevitable, but it must be thoughtful. Development and infrastructure need to move forward together. We need to protect agricultural land, respect our heritage, carefully consider the scale and character of new development, and ensure the decisions we make today do not sacrifice what generations before us worked so hard to preserve. Above all, I want residents to feel heard.

You should be able to ask questions. You should know why decisions are being made, and you should feel that the people representing you at Town Hall are listening to the people who actually live here.

Niagara-on-the-Lake has given generations of my family a place to call home.

I am running because I want to help protect that home while building a future our children and grandchildren will be equally proud to inherit, and as Niagara-on-the-Lake grows, I believe every development decision should come back to four simple principles:

Right development.

Right place.

Right scale.

Right infrastructure.

Karen Jones

Candidate for Niagara-on-the-Lake Council, 2026