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Municipal and School Board Election Biography

The Municipality is sharing the following biography exactly as submitted by each Candidate. We have not edited or revised grammar, spelling, punctuation, or verified any content.

Candidate Name: John Biekx

Office Seeking: Councillor

For more than four decades, I have been proud to call Leamington home. I grew up in a wartime house on King Street, and for the past 41 years, I have watched our community grow and change. Leamington is more than where I live—it is home. My connection to this community runs deep, and much of my life has been dedicated to working, volunteering, and giving back.

My professional journey began on February 1, 1996, when I started at the Peterson Spring Kingsville plant. From the beginning, I became actively involved in representing and advocating for my coworkers. In 2000, I was elected to the Health and Safety Committee, followed by my election as Committee Person in 2003. In 2006, I was elected Chairperson and later became Vice President of the CAW Local 1769 Executive Board. In 2011, I was acclaimed President of CAW Local 1769.

As President, I was involved in the merger of CAW Local 1769 with CAW Local 444, helping strengthen representation and build a larger and more effective local union for our county members.

In 2016, I was appointed County Liaison Representative, responsible for grievances and collective bargaining for five workplaces across health care, transportation, fisheries, and automotive sectors. These experiences taught me the importance of listening, communication, negotiation, accountability, and finding practical solutions.

I have also continued my education through the Unifor Family Education Centre, completing courses in Collective Bargaining, Conflict Resolution, Grievance Handling, Health and Safety, and Human Rights. I believe the knowledge and skills I have gained will be valuable if I am elected to Council. Municipal government requires listening to different perspectives, understanding complex issues, resolving conflicts, working collaboratively, and making informed decisions.

In 2018, I became a Community-Based Organizer with Unifor Local 444. In 2021, I was hired as a National Staff Representative in the Organizing Department with Unifor National, where I continue to work today. My role involves recruiting and helping bring the union advantage to workplaces looking for a stronger voice and better representation.

Community involvement has always been important to me. I have volunteered with Southpoint Minor Hockey and Leamington Minor Soccer. I am also a proud father of two grown sons, Bailey and Jared, who are both thriving and working in Leamington. My greatest accomplishment in life is raising two successful sons who are contributing members of our community.

As I look toward serving on Council, I want to focus on the issues that matter to

residents. The revitalization and future of our Uptown, addressing homelessness, and bridging the gap between social services and those in need are key areas I want to focus on. I believe we need to look at practical solutions that connect people with the services and supports available while ensuring our community remains safe, vibrant, and welcoming.

Most importantly, I believe every area of Leamington needs to be included in our vision for the future. Whether you live Uptown, in an established neighbourhood, or in one of our growing areas, your voice matters. I want to help build a Leamington where every neighbourhood is included, every resident is heard, and our community moves forward together.

John Biekx