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THE Orléans Star

April 17, 2025 • Volume 39, No. 24

Next edition May 1



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Clockwise from top left, Marie-France Lalonde (Lib.), Steve Mansour (Cons.), Oulai B. Goué (NDP), and Jaycob Jacques (GP).

Time to cast your ote

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

Orléans voters will be heading to the polls on April 28 to cast their ballot in the 2025 federal election.

According to the *Toronto Star's* election predictor, the Signal – which takes an aggregate of the various national polls including Nanos Research and Ipsos – the Liberals had built up a four to five point lead as of April 9 after lagging far behind in the polls in December and into January.

According to the same report, if sustained, a four to five point lead in support could equate to a Liberal majority. However, a lot can change in two weeks and a lot may have changed between when this paper went to press on April 12 and when it hit readers' doorsteps this week.

But whether or not enough support could swing back in favour of the Conservative Party to enable them to form the next government is questionable at best. The only question that remained to be answered with two weeks left to

go in the campaign is whether or not the Liberals could win enough seats to form a majority or remain in a minority position.

Locally, the race is between Liberal incumbent Marie-France Lalonde and Conservative hopeful Steve Mansour.

Lalonde is running to secure her third term in office. She was first elected in 2019 and was subsequently reelected in 2021 after capturing 50 per cent of the vote.

Mansour is a 26-year-old law student who is born and raised in Orléans and is fluently bilingual. He has been involved in politics since high school and has worked for a Conservative member on Parliament Hill.

If he were to beat Lalonde, he would become only the second Conservative to represent Orléans in the House of Commons since the early 1900s. The only person to hold that distinction is the late Royal Galipeau, who served in the House of Commons from 2006 to 2015.

The riding's boundaries has also been

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 ►



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Easter weekend schedule changes

OTTAWA – The City of Ottawa would like to remind residents of the following schedule changes and City service impacts on Good Friday, April 18, and Easter Monday, April 21. ServiceOttawa's Client Services and Provincial Offences counters and phone lines will be closed. There will be no curbside green bin, recycling, garbage or bulky item collection on Friday, April 18 and Monday, April 21. Friday's pick-up will take place on Saturday, April 19. Monday's pick-up will take place on Tuesday, April 22. All other collection will be delayed by one day for the remainder of the week. On Friday, April 18, OC Transpo buses and O-Train Lines 1, 2, and 4 will run on a Sunday schedule. On Monday, April 21, OC Transpo buses and O-Train Line 1 will operate on a reduced weekday schedule, and O-Train Lines 2 and 4 will run on a normal weekday schedule. Many community centres and recreation facilities will have altered hours, closures and changes to drop-in schedules. Please check the facility pages on ottawa.ca for details. All municipal child care centres will be closed on Friday, April 18 and Monday, April 21. All branches of Ottawa Public Library (including Bookmobile, Homebound services and InfoService) will also be closed on Friday, April 18 and Monday, April 21.



Last chance to provide input into Ottawa Master Transportation Plan

ORLÉANS – The long-awaited Transportation Master Plan (TMP) - Part 2 is out and this is it – your last chance to make your voice heard in the City's final phase of consultations before delegations at committee. This is the document that will rank and prioritize transportation investment city-wide for the next 10-20 years. The City is hosting in-person and virtual public consultations in the coming weeks. In-person consultation will be held at Tuesday, April 29 at the Ray Friel Recreation Centre from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The online TMP surveys will remain open until May 12 at engageottawa.ca. Projects up for discussion include:

- a new Innes-Walkley connection (Phase 1)
- Navan Road widening - Blackburn Bypass to existing Renaud, includes urbanization (Phase 2)
- Transit priority measures at the intersections of Innes and Orleans Blvd, Jeanne d'Arc, Tenth Line
- Urbanization of Tenth Line - Harvest Valley to Sweet Valley
- Mainstreet improvements for St Joseph Blvd.
- Old Montreal Rd. widening - Trim to Famille Laporte (Phase 2)
- Urbanization of Rockdale - Buckland to Devine
- Active transportation projects included in Part 1 of the TMP

Road projects are categorized in two phases. The first phase of projects is meant to be completed in the next 10 years, and the second the next 20. The widening of Brian Coburn (from Mer Bleue to Tenth Line) ranks 5th out of the top 9 road priority projects in phase 1. But the widening of Brian Coburn from Navan to Mer Bleue, is in phase 2 - meaning that section will not be addressed in the next 10 years. This is the final round of engagement. If we don't act now, we risk being overlooked for another decade in favour of communities in the west and south ends of our city.

Advance polling stations to be open this weekend

Continued from page 1

reconfigured since the last general election. Blackburn Hamlet is now part of Ottawa-Vanier-Gloucester, and Cardinal Creek Village is now part of Glengarry-Prescott-Cumberland.

Besides from Lalonde and Mansour, there are five other candidates whose names will appear on the ballot in Orléans.

The NDP candidate is Oulai B. Goué, a marketing communications entrepreneur who graduated from the Warton Business School in Philadelphia in 2010. One of his main objectives in running for politics is to reform mental health and long-term care through the creation of a community-based home-care model.



Oulai B. Goué

He also supports a public administration reform of a two-day hybrid work in office wherever possible to enhance work-life

balance and efficiency and he supports investing in public and affordable housing for moderate-income households, a temporary VAT/GST reduction on essential groceries and increase support for domestic agriculture.

The Green Party candidate is Jaycob Jacques, a Sudbury native who is currently attending the University of Ottawa where he is pursuing a degree in commerce.



Jaycob Jacques

Other candidates include Libertarian Arlo Arrowsmith, People's Party of Canada member Tafiqul Abu Mohammad and independent candidate Arabella Vida.

Advance polls will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday, April 18, Saturday, April 19, Sunday, April 20 and Monday, April 21.

Check your voter information card for the polling station nearest you.

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Orléans incumbent lays out Liberal Party platform

Marie-France Lalonde, 56, is the current Liberal MP in Orléans. She was first elected to House of Commons in October 2019 after serving as the local member of provincial parliament for five years.

Before entering politics, Lalonde had a career in the health care industry and was one of the original co-owners of the Portobello Manor Retirement Community.

In March 2021, Lalonde was appointed to the post of Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages by former prime minister Justin Trudeau. She subsequently served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship from December 2021 to September 2023 and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of National Defence from September 2023 to the recent dissolution of Parliament.



Marie-France Lalonde

1) What is your strongest personal trait and how will it make you an effective MPP?

I am a practical optimist. I know how to maintain a hopeful outlook on the future for our community in Orléans, while acknowledging the challenges and crises Canada faces. We are in a critical moment: we need to handle the serious threats from the United States, while delivering positive change for Canadians, including creating new jobs, building the fastest-growing economy in the G7. I remain realistic about the challenges we face, and am optimistic that with a strong Liberal majority government, we can continue to deliver on the progress we have made for Canadians, and especially here in Orléans.

2) Please list what you believe are the top three issues in the riding and across the country.

This election is about who can stand up to President Donald Trump, and who can build a stronger economy for everyone. This is about protecting Canadians in the midst of turbulent and uncertain times.

The next government will be faced with three things: ensuring Canada remains a sovereign country capable of defending itself at home while fulfilling our

commitments to our allies and partners on the international stage, protecting Canadians against the threat of American tariffs, and helping more Canadians get into their first home.

A Liberal government will make generational investments in our Canadian Armed Forces, including ensuring they have the tools, training and equipment they need to carry out the difficult work we ask of them in keeping Canada secure and sovereign. A Liberal government will also make it easier to serve by better supporting military families who make enormous sacrifices.

3) What are the three most important planks in your party's platform?

A Mark Carney-led Liberal government will prioritize Canadian jobs, make housing more affordable, and ensure Canada is strong, secure, and sovereign. Under a Liberal government, we will work in a united approach with the provinces and territories to ensure we have one strong Canadian economy, not 13. Mark Carney is the right leader for these unsteady times. He is experienced and serious, and is a proven and steady leader that can unite Canadians and our country as ones.

You can learn more about Marie-France Lalonde and the Liberal Party platform at mariefrancelalonde.liberal.ca.

Conservative candidate addresses campaign issues

Steve Mansour is the Conservative candidate in Orléans. The 26-year-old Orléans resident attended St. Matthew High School before pursuing a degree in law and legal studies at Carleton University. After graduating from Carleton with Bachelor of Arts Degree he entered law school at McGill University in Montreal.

Fluently bilingual, Mansour was selected by the Conservative Party to run in Orléans after going through a rigorous vetting process.



Steve Mansour

1) What is your strongest personal trait and how will it make you an effective MPP?

My strongest personal trait is my ability to listen. Honest, attentive and careful engagement with the issues that matter most to every citizen – whether or not we agree – is the foundation of good leadership.

I approach every conversation assuming the other person knows something I don't. And this is, in fact, always true. Because it's impossible for me to know what others are experiencing unless I take the time to hear them out. This is precisely what separates a Member of Parliament who truly represents the people and constituents, from one who simply holds the office. I've heard from countless individuals who feel unheard. It's time to change that – and I'm committed to leadership by listening and attentiveness.

2) Please list what you believe are the top three issues in the riding and across the country.

1. Affordability
2. Responsible immigration
3. National unity

Affordability is my top priority because Canadians are struggling to make ends meet. Whether it's groceries, rent, fuel or home ownership, the cost of living has become unbearable. Even for those of us who are well off, who might have their homes paid off and some money in the bank, we should all be coming together to address our affordability crisis so that our children, grandchildren, and future generations can have a fair shot at life in Canada.

As your MP, I will fight to lower the record-high taxes, reduce red tape, and restore investor confidence in Canadian markets. We need to remove barriers, create good jobs and build a strong economy.

We also need to restore a responsible approach to immigration. As the child of immigrants, I know how important immigration is

to Canada's identity, but it must be managed responsibly.

The following is basic economic supply-demand: overloading our infrastructures without adequate planning means that the demand for everything skyrockets, while the supply remains stagnant. This is why housing is so expensive. This is why traffic has become unbearable. This is also why so many people cannot receive adequate healthcare services. On that, we're the only party with a real plan to bring healthcare professionals trained in their countries of origin up to Canadian medical standards to help meet our heightened needs for medical workers.

Finally, we must work toward unity. That means tearing down unnecessary trade barriers between provinces, and bridging the growing ideological divides between Canadians. Canada is strongest.

3) What are the three most important planks in your party's platform?

1. Realizing Canada's full economic potential.
2. Restoring a responsible immigration system.
3. Giving the next generation a fair shot at life – affordable homes, stable jobs, and the ability to keep more of their hard-earned dollars.

We have the tools. We have the talent. Now we need leadership that listens, acts, and puts Canadians first – that puts Canada first – for a change.

You can learn more about Steve Mansour and the federal Conservative platform at <https://orleans.ontariopc.ca>.



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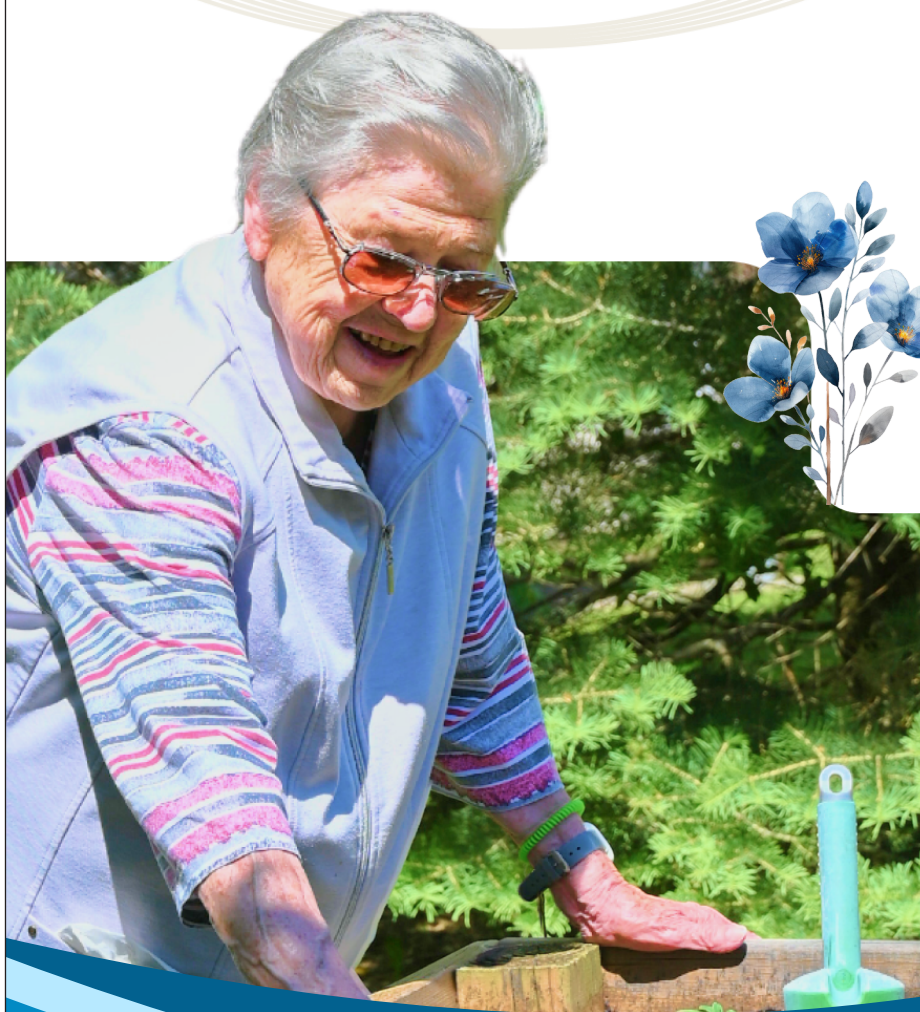
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NDP candidate responds to election questions

The NDP candidate running in Orléans in the upcoming federal election is Oulai B. Goué, 44. Fluently bilingual, Goué graduated from the Warton Business School in Philadelphia in 2010 and describes himself as a “marketing communications entrepreneur” on his LinkedIn profile. He previously ran in the riding of Montcalm in the 2021 General Election and placed fourth behind the Bloc Québécois candidate, who won, the Liberal candidate and the Conservative candidate.



Oulai B. Goué

1) What is your strongest personal trait and how will it make you an effective MPP?

I am quite a resilient person. I like to think of myself as very driven and determined to accomplish what I aim at, no matter the obstacles or adversities that may occur. I believe being persistent in explaining the necessity to act for working class and middle class Canadians will get the attention of other MPs and stakeholders; therefore creating a coalition to support key policies that address affordability, reasonable housing, healthcare expansion, a fair taxation system to name a few issues.

2) Please list what you believe are the top three issues in the riding and across the province.

The next government will first have to contain the tariffs war with the Trump administration, and at the same time, redefine the Canadian economy for the next 25 years. Another urgent issue is our overstretched healthcare system given our aging population combined with the shortage and mismanagement of our human resources. And a third issue is our education system: how our students are prepared for today's and tomorrow's economies and our universities have the resources to produce the most advanced thinking across disciplines.

As far as priority number one, we need short-, medium-, and long-term strategies. We, the NDP, intend to apply a dollar-for-dollar tariffs policy and halt the export of our critical minerals to the US. We also consider halting the exports of our oil as these tariffs hurt our economy and our Canadian families.

The medium strategy will consist in finding new partners in under-tapped markets like the MERCOSUR or the Pacific Alliance in South America, the European Union, the Economic Community of West African States, or the ASEAN and the APEC for Asia.

The long-term strategy is to tap into our own vast land and resources. We need to create a strong and powerful hinterland economy for which we develop major infrastructures in peripheral and rural areas. This means projecting all the workforce and talent we have called upon in Canada the last 20 years into the heartland of our country.

3) What are the three most important planks in your party's platform?

First is affordable housing: We plan to utilize federal Crown land to construct over 100,000 rent-controlled homes in the next decade and retrofit 3.3 million existing homes.

Number two is healthcare expansion: Our party advocates for a national, universal public pharmacare program to ensure all Canadians have access to necessary prescription medications.

Number three is environmental protection: We emphasize the importance of environmental policies that protect Canada's air, land, and water resources.

You can learn more about Oulai B. Goué and the NDP platform at <https://oulaibgoue.ndp.ca/>.

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After 10 years of failed Liberal policies,
housing is more expensive than ever.
Groceries are more expensive than ever.
Immigration is out of control.
Crime is on the rise.
Our Canadian Armed Forces are nearly undeployable.
This election
VOTE FOR | VOTEZ POUR
STEVE MANSOUR
for a change



We need to do better

I recently heard a story about an elderly couple who were being forced out of their home because they couldn't afford to pay their rent anymore. They had no family, no pension except their CPP, no savings of any kind and no idea of where or how they would live out the rest of their lives. Hopefully, they were able to get the help they needed to put a roof over their heads in the short term and the guidance they need to get the necessary resources to spend the rest of their lives living in dignity.

Unfortunately, this is not an isolated story. There are other elderly couples and individuals who find themselves in the same situation every day. They were never able to save much money, at least not enough to retire on. They were never able to buy a home, because they couldn't scrap enough money together for the down payment, and ditto for having any RRSPs. Most of all they didn't possess the knowledge to know any better.

Not everyone is a teacher, or a public servant or any other job or profession that comes with a pension, for that matter.

As life keeps getting more and more expensive it's becoming more and more difficult to save the type of money you need to survive once you leave the workforce either because of old age, failing health or both.

At present, the Old Age Security (OAS) benefit is \$727.67 a month for those aged 65 to 74, and \$800.44 a month for those aged 75 and over. If you were able to make Canada Pension Plan contributions for most of your working life, you might be entitled to a CPP benefit of up to \$1,433 a month, although the average payout is closer to \$800.

Anyone whose annual income is below \$22,056 is also eligible to receive a monthly Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) of up to \$1,086.88, which means that anyone who is already receiving the maximum OAS and CPP benefits combined, isn't eligible.

All of which means a senior with no other source of income has to live on between \$1,838 and \$2,161 a month. Fortunately, there are other government benefits to assist with the cost of housing, if you can find a place to live in. In many cases, the waiting period for government assisted housing can take months.

The best way to combat seniors having to live in poverty, is to educate them when they are younger. We need to teach young people about the importance of saving whatever they can, even if it's putting \$50 or \$100 a month in an RRSP. We also need to teach them about the benefits of acquiring property as soon as they are financially able.

You can argue all you want about the benefits of owning a home compared to renting, but the fact is that having a home that's paid off or nearly paid off, has several benefits. For one, you will always have a roof over your head as long as you can afford to pay the property taxes, and for another, you will have a substantial amount of equity.

— Fred Sherwin

THE Orléans Star

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**FEB 2: WIARTON WILLIE
PREDICTS EARLY SPRING**



The time is now for Orléans South in the Transportation Master Plan

The City has released Part 2 of the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) update – and this is it: our final chance to influence the infrastructure priorities that will guide investments over the next 10 to 20 years.

I have worked tirelessly to make the case for Orléans South, which continues to experience explosive growth. I'm proud to share that our advocacy has helped elevate the Cumberland Bus Rapid Transitway to second in priority among all citywide transit projects (on the books since the 90s). But when it comes to road infrastructure, we still have work to do.

The Brian Coburn Blvd. widening between Mer Bleue and Tenth Line ranks 5th in the City's list of road projects for the next 10 years – a big step forward. However, the portion between Navan and Mer Bleue has been pushed to the second phase – meaning it won't be addressed for at least another decade. Meanwhile, 15,000 new units are projected to come online in the same time frame, followed by two separate expansion land areas.

Given we haven't seen the same amount of

investment as the west and the south in the last decade, it's our time.

The widening of Brian Coburn from two lanes to four would also allow the roadway to become a complete street. Currently inaccessible bus stops would be available to residents along with segregated walking and cycling infrastructure. This is our last opportunity to demand that Orléans South cannot wait another 10 years for transportation options.

I'm encouraging all to participate in the final round of public consultations online at engage.ottawa.ca with two surveys, including an in-person session at the Ray Friel Recreation Centre on Tuesday, April 29 and a virtual session on Monday, May 5. Surveys remain open until May 12.

We've already proven that our voices matter. Ward 19 had the highest participation rate citywide in the last phase of TMP engagement. Let's keep that momentum going.

I will keep fighting for what Orléans South deserves – but to get results, I need your voice, too.



**Catherine
Kitts**

Orléans South-Navan

www.orleansstar.com

Seed for career in journalism was planted at Algonquin College

I was saddened a few weeks back to hear that Algonquin College was dropping its Creative Photography program along with a number of other programs including its radio broadcasting program.

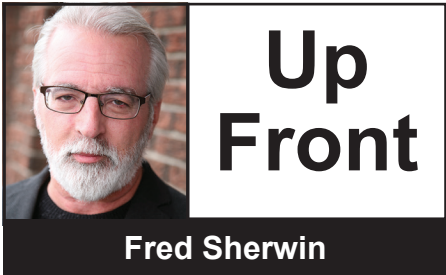
The programs that are being cut are a sign of the times, I guess. Anyone who owns a Smart phone these days fancies themselves a “photographer” and since there are very few radio broadcasting jobs left anymore, the program has become redundant.

The Creative Photography program is the last vestige of what once was the Photography Technician program, of which I am a proud alum, having graduated in 1982.

My decision to go to Algonquin College after high school was a rather controversial one, in just so much as my father’s expectations were concerned. You see, the plan was to go to the University of Waterloo to study economics and international finance, but that never happened due to one faithful day while I was on a job shadowing program in Grade 12.

Throughout high school I had a keen interest in photography and would often take pictures at school events. In fact, the 1980 school year book has a number of my pictures in it.

One of the courses I took in Grade 12, allowed each student to spend a week job shadowing in an industry they had a



particular interest in. Most of my classmates chose office type of work with an accounting firm, or a law office, while others chose a veterinarian’s office. I chose the Canadian Press bureau on Wellington Street.

The chief photographer at the time was Fred Chartrand who was, and still is, a bit of a legend in Canadian photojournalism.

During the first four days I was there, I basically followed Fred and the other CP staffers around from one assignment to another. It wasn’t until the final day that I was allowed to actually shoot something. Pierre Trudeau was holding a press conference at the National Press Theatre next door and Fred told me to grab my camera and take a few pictures.

I excitedly did what he said and shot a bunch of pictures of Trudeau answering questions from the members of the press.

At first, after I returned to the bureau, Fred didn’t say anything. Shortly after I got back, Trudeau’s personal photographer, Peter

Bregg, came in behind me.

“Who’s the kid?,” he asked Fred.

“Ah, he’s just here on a work experience program. He’s been here all week,” Fred answered.

“Well whoever he is, he has good timing. I was standing behind him. You should check out his film,” Peter told him. To which Fred told me to go process the two rolls I shot.

After I processed the film and it had sufficient time to dry, Fred edited what I had shot, notched two frames and told me to make a couple of prints which he then proceeded to put on the wire. The “wire” is the term used to describe sending a picture out to every publication that is a member of the Canadian Press agency.

I remember being over the moon that he had chosen to put two of my pictures on the wire. But I was not prepared for what followed. The next day I went to the local Mac’s Milk store to buy a chocolate bar and a Coke and happened to glance at the newsstand where I saw the picture I had taken of Trudeau the day before, gracing the front pages of the *Toronto Star*, and the *Montreal Gazette* and the *Globe & Mail*.

I was so excited I ended up buying five copies of each paper and right then and there I decided I wanted to be a news photographer, but I didn’t dare tell my father. It wasn’t until the following year – we had a fifth year

of high school back then called Grade 13 which was for people who intended to go to university – after I had already applied to the photography program at Algonquin College that I told him.

He was not amused. In fact, we barely spoke to each other for the next 10 years until I photographed Leonard Cohen while working for the *Montreal Daily News* in 1988 and presented him with an autographed 11x17 photo of Cohen that he accepted my career choice. Even then, my path to photojournalist wasn’t a smooth one.

After I arrived at Algonquin College, I developed a love of studio photography under the tutelage of my professors, Gunther Leonhardt and Werner Reitboeck, who are legends in their own right.

After graduating from Algonquin in 1982, I pursued a career in studio photography in Toronto. I must have knocked on a dozen doors that summer but no one was hiring, except for fashion photographer Struan Campbell-Smith, who offered me a part-time apprenticeship job. Unfortunately, it wasn’t enough to pay the bills so I returned to Ottawa and started working as a freelance news photographer for the *Ottawa Citizen*, which started me down the path to becoming a writer and eventually the owner of the *Orléans Star* – all thanks to the time I spent at Algonquin College.

ORLÉANS

MARIE-FRANCE LALONDE



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Improvements finally being made to roads in Orléans East-Cumberland

We're starting to see the first signs of spring, but the savvy among us know that there really only are two seasons in Ottawa – winter and construction.

And while construction can be very frustrating and disruptive, it means we are getting the infrastructure investments here in Orléans that we have been asking for.

The last few summers have been difficult, there's no other polite way to put it. (I'm sure the *Orléans Star* would edit out the choice words I'd use in private). While we will still be seeing some of the Stage 2 Greatest Hits this summer, we've been told they will be less impactful.

We are making more headway on the list of residential streets I have been advocating for over the last six years.

- Mathieu Way in Fallingbrook is finally being repaved.

- Cambrian Heights resurfacing in Cumberland Village is starting with Moffat and will continue over the next few years.

- The southern portion of Cameron will be

resurfaced with the remainder coming after some geotechnical work. The hill on Canaan Road wasn't forgotten last year – it'll be finished this year.

- And Taylor Creek, Vimont and Eric Czapnik will be resurfaced this summer as well.

Development on St. Joseph will certainly cause some traffic disruptions as utilities are

moved and sites are serviced for density.

We know we need more units on our main street and near the LRT, but preparing for our future will cause short term inconvenience and frustration. It will pass.

We are growing up as a community, and we should expect growing pains. My team and I will do our best to make sure none of it comes as a surprise as we always do, so make sure you to subscribe to our newsletter and follow us on Facebook. We've always have your back!

Until next month, I hope you and your family enjoy a warm start to spring.



**Matt
Luloff**

Orléans East-Cumberland

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route will
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Five hopefuls vie for Glengarry-Prescott-Cumberland seat

By Jody Maffett
The Orléans Star

Glengarry-Prescott-Russell is now Glengarry-Prescott-Cumberland. The riding's boundaries were redrawn as part of the redistribution of electoral districts following the 2022 General Election. In the process, the riding lost North Glengarry, but gained the Cardinal Creek Village community.

The other big change in the riding is that three-term Liberal incumbent Francis Drouin has decided not to run again. In his place, the Liberals have turned to Rockland native, Giovanna Mingarelli, a technology entrepreneur and a writer who once worked in the Prime Minister's Office.

According to her online biography, Mingarelli is a champion of fellow female entrepreneurs.

She is on the board of directors for the Women's History Project, and she is an advisor to Women in Cloud whose mission is

to provide economic access to women-led STEM businesses.

She holds an Honours degree in political science and international relations from Carleton University.

The riding has been Liberal since 2015 when Drouin beat then Conservative incumbent Pierre Lemieux.

Lemieux tried to win the seat back in 2019, but was soundly defeated. In 2022, Drouin bested Conservative hopeful Susan McArthur by more than 8,000 votes.

This time around, the Party has pinned its hopes on Hawkesbury town councillor Julie Séguin, who has been hand-picked by the party rather than have to go through a traditional nomination process and nomination meeting.

Like Mingarelli, Séguin has been deeply involved in trying to empower other women. She is involved with Leadership Féminin Prescott-Russell (LFPL), a non-partisan



Julie Séguin

organization that aims to get more women from Prescott-Russell elected to all levels of government. As a councillor, she has also been supportive of the Réseau des Femmes Immigrantes Francophones de Prescott-Russell (REFIF-PR), a local organization which aims to integrate immigrant Francophone women into local economic and civic life.

You can learn more about Séguin and her campaign at https://www.facebook.com/voteJulieSeguin/about/?_rdr

The NDP candidate in Glengarry-Prescott-Cumberland is Carleton University student Ryder Finlay, who has been working as a campaign organizer for the NDP at both the provincial and federal levels. She was also the deputy campaign manager for Yvette Ashiri who ran for city council in Orléans South-Navan in the 2022 municipal election.



Ryder Finlay

The Green Party candidate in Glengarry-

Prescott-Cumberland is Thaila Riden.

A lifelong Glengarry-Prescott-Russell resident, Riden advocates for sustainability, equity, and electoral reform, with deep community ties and a passion for science-driven policy.



Thaila Riden

Riden is well-known in the community for his activism and dedication to sustainable and organic growing practices. He converted a portion of his farmland into a community garden for people to have a safe space to grow local, healthy food and he held the position of "sustainability champion" at Beau's Brewery in Vankleek Hill. To learn more about Riden and his platform visit gpo.ca/candidate/thaila-riden/.

The only other person running in Glengarry-Prescott-Cumberland is People's Party of Canada candidate Deborah Perrier.

A resident of Plantagenet, Perrier worked as a nurse for about 30 years and now works for the federal government.

Spring

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Blackburn Hamlet voters casting their ballots in new riding

By Jody Maffett
The Orléans Star

Voters in the east end community of Blackburn Hamlet are no longer casting their ballots as part of Orléans. As of the current election, they are now voting as part of Ottawa-Vanier-Gloucester.

This change came about as a result of a reorganization of federal riding boundaries following the 2021 General Election.

As such, they must choose between Liberal incumbent Mona Fortier, Conservative candidate Dean Whythe, NDP candidate Tristan Oliff and six other candidates, including Green Party candidate Christian Proulx and Rhinoceros Party candidate Peter White.

Mona Fortier is the latest in a long line of Liberal MPs representing the riding that dates back to 1935 and even longer.

She was first elected to the House of Commons in April 2017, when she succeeded former Liberal MP Mauril Bélanger.

Prior to entering politics, Fortier was Chief Director of Communications and Market Development for La Cité Collégiale.

She has served in several capacities as a minister in the federal Cabinet. From 2019 to 2021 she was Minister of Middle

Class Prosperity as an associate minister of finance. In 2021, she was appointed president of the Treasurer Board by former prime minister Justin Trudeau. And in December of this past year, she was named Chief Government Whip.



Mona Fortier

In the 2021 General Election, Fortier received 49 per cent of the vote and out-distanced the runner-up NDP candidate by almost 15,000 votes. To find out more about Mona Fortier and her campaign, visit monafortier.liberal.ca.

The NDP candidate this time around is Tristan Oliff who is a marketing and communications consultant and the founder and lead strategist for Roots of Purpose, which supports nonprofit sector organizations with storytelling and strategy.

He also served as the interim press secretary for NDP leader Jagmeet Singh from April to July in 2022. To learn more about Tristan Oliff, visit tristanoliff.ca.

The Conservative candidate in Ottawa-Vanier-Gloucester is Dean Whythe.

Whythe has held a number of positions in the federal government including as a financial analyst for Finance Canada, a senior intelligence officer and section lead for the Department of National Defence, and most recently as a senior advisor with Global Affairs Canada.

Whythe and his wife recently had a baby, which was one of the motivating factors for his running in the election. As a new father, he is deeply concerned about the state of the country and where it's heading.



Tristan Oliff



Dean Whythe


According to his biography on the Conservative Party website, Whythe is running to ensure the economic, security, and social needs of the country are finally given the attention they deserve. To find out more about Dean Whythe visit deanwhythe.ca

The Green Party candidate in Ottawa-Vanier-Gloucester is Christian Proulx. A lifelong resident of Vanier and a proud Franco-Ontarian, Proulx decided to throw his hat into the political ring to champion the Green Party platform, especially the party's commitment to establish sustainable and vibrant communities.



Christian Proulx

The ballot in Ottawa-Vanier-Gloucester also includes Marxist-Leninist candidate Christian Legeais, People's Party of Canada member Marty Simms, Libertarian candidate Coreen Corcoran, Rhinoceros Party member Peter White and independent candidate Elizabeth Benoit.



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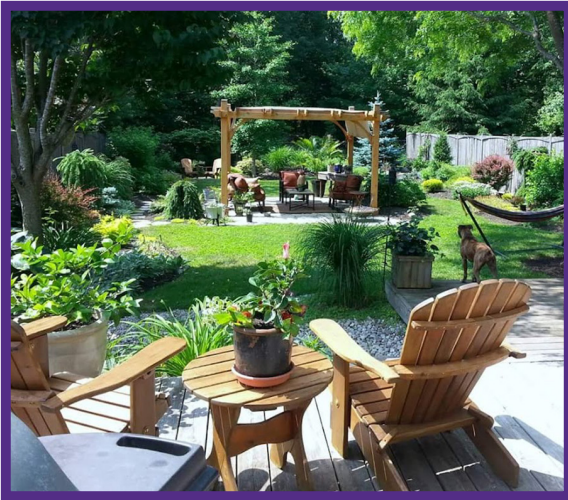
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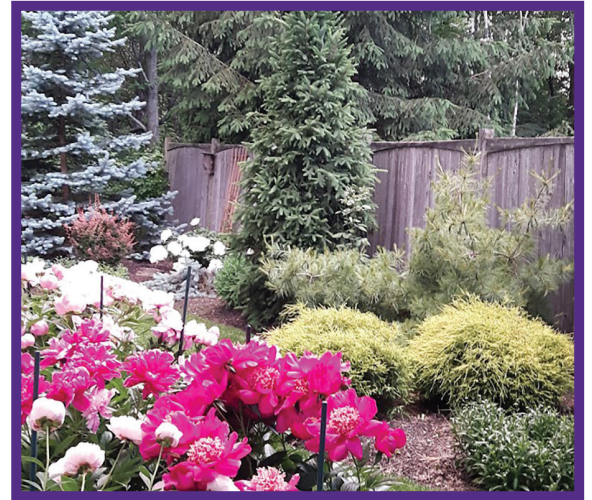
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SPRING 2025

HOME STYLE



Reimagine Your Outdoor Space: The Garden Revolution

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

As the seasons change, so do gardening trends – and a greener, more sustainable approach is flourishing. Traditional lawns are becoming a thing of the past, replaced by eye-catching, easy-care gardens and native plantings that captivate year-round. Picture vibrant perennials, sculptural evergreens, and colorful blooms – not a patch of grass in sight.

At Candace Mallette Garden Design, they specialize in creating personalized garden masterpieces tailored to their clients' lifestyles. They can transform your existing landscape or design a fresh garden oasis tailored uniquely to your taste. Whether it's creating welcoming entryways or relaxing backyard escapes, they will work closely with you to bring your garden dreams to life.

The process begins with comprehensive consultations to truly understand what you want. Whether you're looking for drought-resistant planting solutions or four-season interest, they will ensure that

every detail aligns with your aesthetic and functional goals.

Designing your dream garden is only the beginning. Candace Mallette not only ensure your new garden looks stunning but remains healthy over time as well. Whether you desire a peaceful backyard retreat, a playful space for children, a pet-friendly environment, or a native Ontario Garden garden with indigenous flora, their Garden Design services will bring your vision to life.

They will expertly install all plants with precision and care, providing seamless transformation from blueprint to blossoming reality. Their mission is to complete installations on time and within budget without compromising on quality.

But their dedication doesn't stop there – ongoing maintenance, including weeding and pruning, ensures that your garden will remain a stunning sanctuary. Or if you prefer to do it yourself, they can provide personalized guidance on maintaining and enhancing your garden.

So say goodbye to mowing endless



Level up your home with a lawn and garden designed by Candace Mallette Garden Design. FILE PHOTO

stretches of grass and hello to a low-maintenance haven. Ready to make a change? Contact Candace Mallette Garden Design today and take the first step toward selling your lawnmower and embracing

beauty, sustainability, and simplicity. You can visit their website at cmld.ca or call them directly at 613-203-6323 to set up your initial consultation and get the ball rolling to your dream oasis.



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Let Louise Cardinal Concept turn your design dreams into reality

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

Spring has sprung and life begins anew once again, so why not breathe new life into your home? You have the desire. You have the motivation. You even have a few ideas on what you would like to do. The only thing you're lacking is a plan. That's where Louise Cardinal can help.

With over 35 years of experience, Louise has built lasting professional relationships in the Ottawa and Gatineau area and is universally well-regarded by her trade partners and clients. Leveraging her experience, Louise is an expert at facilitating change across project phases, be they small styling consultations, or turnkey ground-up projects.

She is passionate about creating designs that reflect a client's personality, as well as serve them in their day-to-day life through ergonomic designs that create a calming and clean atmosphere.

Finding her passion for design early in life and hoping to employ her keen eye for detail, Louise attended Outaouais College and has been creating beautiful and functional spaces ever since.

Having built Louise Cardinal Concept from the ground up, her philosophy has not changed: a home should be a reflection of the individuals living within it. This sentiment

can be viewed across her numerous successful projects, as well as satisfied clients whose spaces she has transformed.

More recently, Louise has teamed up with her daughter Claudel, who studied interior design at the CEGEP de l'Outaouais. Claudel worked at several local design firms before joining LC Concept to help build upon her mother's dream when she first created the company.

Bringing to the team a technology and usability-rich mindset and approach, Claudel is ushering in the next generation of interior design perspectives and mentalities. Specializing in space planning and detailed technical drawings, she is inspired by a minimalist style mixed with elegant natural earthy tones.

Claudel feels the magic of interior design is walking into an existing space, transformed and brought to life in an entirely new way.

Working with her daughter, Louise is proud to share her knowledge and expertise with someone who shares her passion for design and creating truly beautiful and functional spaces.

Together, Louise and Claudel have an uncanny ability to envision the final product. Their primary objective is to create the ideal interior living space that has the style and atmosphere that reflects your personality.



Claudel and Louise Cardinal

So whether updating your kitchen or bathroom, transforming your living room, or undertaking a total home makeover, Louise and Claudel are more than happy to lend their expertise and creative genius to help make your dreams a reality. For more information visit www.louisecardinal.ca.



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When it comes to fireplaces and BBQs, Romantic has it all

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

With more than 60 years of combined experience in selling and installing fireplaces of every type and model, the father-and-son team of Mike and Jason Pilon have a well-established reputation for meeting and often exceeding their clients' expectations. It's one of the reasons why they have a 4.8 star rating on Google with 187 reviews. It's also the reason why so many of their new customers are referred to them by existing clients.

"It's probably the most rewarding part of the job," says Mike Pilon, who sold fireplaces in Cornwall for 31 years before moving to Orléans in 2009.

"When someone says, 'Oh, so-and-so told me I should come here,' you know you're doing things right, especially when you think a fireplace should last a lifetime. We don't get a lot of repeat customers, unless they move to another house and want another fireplace."

The biggest advantage to buying your next fireplace at Romantic, besides their selection of quality natural gas, propane, pellet, wood fireplaces, and wood stoves is

the fact that they do their own installation, including mantles and hearths. There are no sub-contractors involved. Their after-sale service is also second to none. In fact, Mike and Jason make it a point to check in with their customers from time to time to make sure everything is working to their standards... and the customer's satisfaction.

The first step to buying a new fireplace at Romantic is to visit their showroom located in the Canotek Business Park. You can drop in anytime between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. from Monday to Friday, or 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays. (The showroom is closed on Sundays.)

Since the owners are the salespeople, you will be greeted by either Mike or Jason, who will be happy to explain the pros and cons of the different types of fireplaces in meeting your needs and your budget. In most cases they will give you three options – good, better and best. The decision is then up to you. Mike can also help you design an enclosure for your new fireplace to fit into your existing decor or your new home.

After the initial consultation, either Mike or Jason will visit your home to see where the fireplace is being installed for



When it comes to fireplaces and BBQs, Mike and Jason Pilon are your local fireplace and BBQ experts. FILE PHOTO

themselves to further ensure that you are making the right purchase and to give you an accurate final quote. Once the fireplace is installed, you can enjoy it for as long as you remain in your home.

Besides fireplaces, Romantic also sells a number of leading-brand BBQs and barbecue accessories.

The Romantic Fireplace showroom is conveniently located at 5380 Canotek Road, Unit 7.

To get to the Canotek Business Park, exit Hwy. 174 at Montreal Road. You can also visit their website at romanticfireplaces.com, or Google "Romantic Fireplaces" to see hundreds of pictures of their work.

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Former St. Matt’s student carrying Conservative banner

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

For Orléans Conservative candidate Steve Mansour, running for political office is very much a personal calling.

“When I heard that the Party was looking for a candidate to run in Orléans, I knew I had to step forward and answer the call,” says Mansour when asked why he decided to run.

“I know the community. I was born here. I went to high school here. And I believe I have a lot to offer the residents should they put their faith and trust in me to represent them.”

Mansour went to St. Matthew High School. Afterwards, he went to Carleton University where he majored in law and legal studies and did a double minor in political science and philosophy.

After graduating from Carleton with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Law and Legal Studies, he was accepted to attend law school at McGill University in Montréal where he recently completed his second year of study.

In between his studies, Mansour worked

for legislative services on Parliament Hill.

Born and raised in Orléans, Mansour is a proud Coptic Christian – both of his parents immigrated to Canada from Egypt – and he is the co-founder and vice president of Coptic Lawyers Canada. He is also quick to point out that he is fluently bilingual.

Before having his name put on the ballot, Mansour had to go through a detailed vetting process with the federal Conservative Party.

When he got the phone call from the Party he was thrilled.

“It was great, but then I realized the real work was about to begin,” says Mansour who has spent the last three weeks putting in 14 hour days, seven days a week to try to meet and talk to as many potential voters as possible.

“Honestly, this has been the best part about the campaign. Getting to talk to people and hear about their concerns and the struggles they’ve been having trying to keep up with rising prices. In some instances, it’s quite sad because people really are struggling and they are looking for the type of change the

Conservative Party can bring them,” says Mansour.

Mansour is also cognizant of the fact that it is the younger generation who are the most impacted by the rising cost of everything from groceries to housing.

“Given the current state of affairs, it is really the young people who are the least represented in the decision-making process,” says Mansour. “They are the one who are going to be paying the price for what’s happening now. They are the ones who have a lower chance of success than their parents and the generation who preceded them.

“I also think it is incumbent on older people in our community who haven’t necessarily experienced the hardships of the affordability crisis in Canada, to keep the best interests of their children and grandchildren at heart, and to ensure that they are voting in a way that allows these future generations to have a fair shot at life like they once did.”

Mansour is also aware of the fact that the riding has traditionally voted Liberal, which only fuels his drive and determination even




Steve Mansour

more, along with the support he has been receiving as he goes door-to-door.

“Honestly, the support people have been showing me has been overwhelming and I think that’s because I am representing a party that has a lot of the solutions to their problems,” says Mansour.

But win or lose, Mansour says he will have absolutely no regrets. “It’s totally worthwhile because it’s a noble endeavour.”



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COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

LIVING FAITH BIBLE

CHURCH Good Friday Easter Service at 10:30 a.m. at 1220 Old Tenth Line Road. (A joint service with Grace Presbyterian.)

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

QUEENSWOOD HEIGHTS

SPRING FLING presented by the Queenswood Heights Community Association from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Queenswood Heights Community Centre, 1485 Duford Dr. Colouring contest, children's games, face-painting, decorated bicycle parade plus hot dogs and cotton candy for sale.

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

LIVING FAITH BIBLE

CHURCH Easter Sunday Service at 9 a.m. at 1220 Old Tenth Line Road. (A joint service with Grace Presbyterian.)

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

THE STRAY DOG BREWING COMPANY

presents Strut Burlesque as part of their Taproom Series. Tickets \$20 available at straydogbrewing.ca. Show starts at 7 p.m. The Stray Dog Brewing Company is located at 501 Lacolle Way.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

THE STRAY DOG BREWING COMPANY

presents Matt Luloff live an in concert as part of their Taproom Concert Series. Tickets \$20 available in advance at straydogbrewing.ca. Show starts at 8 p.m. The Stray Dog Brewing Company is located at 501 Lacolle Way.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

MUSICAL BINGO at the Orléans Brewing Co., 4380 Innes Rd. (near the McDonalds) from

4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Prizes to be won. Fun to be had. Memories to be made.

SATURDAY, MAY 3

BLACKBURN HAMLET COMMUNITY GARAGE

SALE from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The entire community is invited. Rain or shine! Visit blackburn.ca for more up-to-date information as it becomes available.

ORLÉANS LIONS TRIVIA NIGHT in support of the Orléans-Cumberland Community Resource Centre. Doors open at 5 p.m. Dinner service 6 p.m. Trivia starts at 7:30 p.m. Trivia game and chili \$20. Trivia only \$10. Send e-transfer for registrations and payments to orleanslions@yahoo.com. Please indicate with the e-transfer the event name, your name, the # of participants and the # of meals.

IN MEMORIAM



Richard Roy, 86
Passed away on April 7, 2025

John Paradis, 81
Passed away on April 2, 2025

Stella Jane Collier (née Mason), 65
Passed away on April 2, 2025



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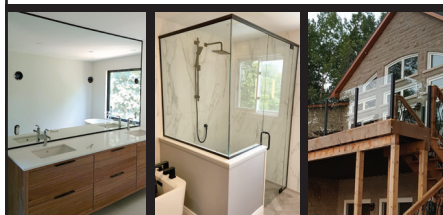
NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on behalf of (Marie Cormier) application will be made to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario for an Act (to revive Holy Trinity Restaurant Inc.).

The application may be considered by the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs. Any person who has an interest in the application and who wishes to make submissions, for or against the application, to the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs should notify, in writing, the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Legislative Building, Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario, M7A 1A2. Dated at Stittsville, this 17 day of October, 2024.

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Orléans martial artists qualify for World Championships

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

Four members of the Demers ITF Taekwondo School in Orléans will be competing at the upcoming World Championships in July after recently being selected to Team Canada.

Kaevan Chothia, 13, 1st degree black belt, Leia Lozada, 3rd degree black belt, David Schranz, 3rd degree black belt and Chantal Demers, 7th degree black belt, have all been chosen to represent Canada at the ITF World Championships which will be held in Barcelona, Spain from July 23-27.

Keavan Chothia has competed in multiple competitions as a 1st degree black belt and will be competing at his first World Championship event in the in the junior 14- to 17-year-old division in patterns, sparring, power breaking and special technique. He will be cheered on by his entire family in Barcelona will be traveling with him for support.

Leia Lozada has been competing at the local, provincial, national and international level ever since she became 1st degree black

belt as a junior and has been collecting medals at every championship.

Her latest achievement was at the 2024 ITF World Games in Seoul, South Korea where she competed as a junior. This World Championship will be her first in the adult division (18-35 years old) and will also be competing in all four events.






David Schranz is the veteran of the group. Like Lozada, his most recent achievement was at the 2024 World Games in Korea where he medaled in patterns and sparring. In Barcelona he will be competing in all four disciplines in the senior division (35 + years old).

Chantal Demers is a 7th degree black belt master and instructor. She has competed at multiple World Championships including the 2016 event in Brighton, England where she won gold in patterns therefore making her a world champion. This year she will be part of the coaching team while her father Michel Demers will be taking part as an official umpire.



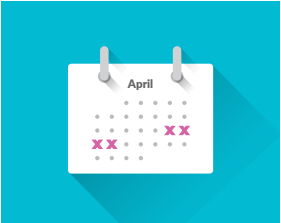
(Left to right) Kaevan Chothia, Chantal Demers, Leia Lozada, Michel Demers, and David Schranz will be taken part in the ITF World Championships as part of Team Canada. PHOTO SUPPLIED

FEDERAL ELECTION / MONDAY, APRIL 28

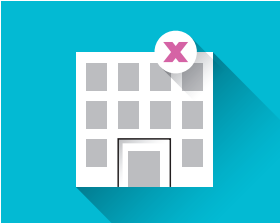

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There are ways you can vote early.


You can vote:



At your assigned advance polling station from Friday, April 18, to Monday, April 21, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.




At any Elections Canada office until Tuesday, April 22, 6 p.m.




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