

**Town of Cobourg**

**MAYOR’S ARTICLE #6
Media Outlet**: Metroland Media

**Header: Do YOU have your Red Shoes?
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**BODY:**

I would like to encourage citizens to attend the Harvest Festival this Saturday, September 28th organized by the Downtown Business Improvement Area (DBIA). It is an exciting time for a family outing and supporting our local businesses. Your presence adds to the richness of our downtown and allows us to showcase our “eight blocks of awesome” goods and wares. The DBIA Board appreciates your on-going support.

Added to this exciting fall event will be Cornerstone Family Violence Prevention Centre promoting their fundraiser: Walk A Mile in Her Shoes. I am encouraging all Cobourg Council members to try on those red shoes. In particular to Councillors Burchat, Darling and Bureau I am looking forward to seeing those high-heel, red shoes. I wish to encourage any member of our community to join us on the walk by registering with Cornerstone and being available that day starting at 10 a.m. If you wish, you can donate any amount, to my mayor’s “Cornerstone” fundraiser by going to the Mayor’s website on [www.cobourg.ca/council](http://www.cobourg.ca/council). All money raised will be forwarded directly to Cornerstone.

Money raised allows Cornerstone to achieve their vision of advocating for systemic change that supports the advancement of women and children impacted by violence, for a safer and healthier future. One might ask, why support this community initiative? Well here are some alarming facts: 69 women and 47 children resided in the shelter for a total of 6,013 days of residential service reaching an occupancy rate of 117 per cent. Or 1,024 direct service hours provided to 242 women through community counselling or 13 programs funded. Ultimately, 2,619 individual lives were impacted through shelter, counselling and prevention services. After reading some of these heart-wrenching statistics, my question is why not?

When citizens and first responders come together collectively for the purpose of delivering a powerful message that violence in any form is unacceptable I believe we are striving to meet Helen Keller’s quote, “Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much.” As Mayor, I hope YOU will consider joining us in this important event and are practicing walking in those red, high-heel shoes!

**-** **END -**