

# **Bruce Starr**

**Senator, Oregon, USA**

**Chair, Road User Fee Task Force**



Bruce Starr is a native Oregonian. He grew up on his parent's farm south of Hillsboro, Oregon. He graduated from Hillsboro High School and earned a bachelors degree from Portland State University.

Upon graduation from PSU, Bruce started his own construction company. His company focused on residential and commercial roofing and repair. He operated the business for more than a dozen years.

Bruce's experience as a small business owner was a major factor in his decision to alter his career path and seek elective office in 1994, first at the local level then at the state. From City ordinances to State statutes, Bruce has maintained a commitment to improving both community livability and the business environment in Oregon.

In 2002, Bruce accepted a position with the Portland Business Alliance. The Portland Business Alliance is the chamber of commerce for the greater Portland area. He was responsible for business development with a focus on international trade. He began representing companies' public affairs needs during his work with the PBA.

Bruce started his new business, Cutting Edge NW in 2006. He currently advises companies on public affairs strategies, regularly representing firms in front of legislators from Washington, DC to Washington State.

Bruce is strongly committed to public service and currently serves as a State Senator in the Oregon Legislature, first elected in 2002 and re-elected in 2006. Prior to his senate service, Bruce served two terms in the Oregon House of Representatives and a four year term on the Hillsboro City Council.

His public service priorities reflect the needs of his rapidly growing western Washington County district. Those priorities include education reform, transportation investments and economic development incentives.

He currently serves as vice-chair of the Oregon Senate Business and Transportation committee and a member of the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development. He is the chair of the National Conference of State Legislatures Surface Transportation Act Re-Authorization working group. He is a member of the National Conference of State Legislatures Executive Committee.

Bruce is married to Rebecca and they live in Hillsboro, Oregon with their two children.

# Melissa Mark-Viverito

**Council Member, The New York City Council, NY, USA**



Melissa Mark-Viverito was born and raised in San Juan, Puerto Rico and attended Columbia College at Columbia University in New York City where she earned her B.A. majoring in Political Science in 1991. Melissa was selected to attend the National Urban Fellows Program and earned her Master of Public Administration from Baruch College, City University of New York in 1995.

Melissa is the first Puerto Rican woman and Latina elected to serve as Council Member for the 8th Councilmanic District. In the City Council Melissa serves on the following committees Civil Service & Labor, Community Development, Contracts, Youth Services, Aging, Housing and Buildings, Public Housing and she also chairs the Parks and Recreation Committee. In her current capacity Council Member Mark-Viverito is a strong advocate for the creation and preservation of income-targeted housing and is staunch advocate for New York City's public housing. Legislatively, Melissa is the primary sponsor of some key legislation that has been signed into law, including:

- Int. No. 627-A: a Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York in relation to the duty of an owner to refrain from harassment of tenants and remedies for the breach of such duty;
- Int. No. 688: a Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the registration of general contractors;
- Int. No. 687-A: a Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring certain buildings or structures to undergo structural inspections;
- Int. No. 613: a Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the use of explosives for demolition and excavation.

Prior to her election, Melissa worked at 1199 SEIU New York's Health Care Union. In her capacity as Strategic Organizer, Melissa assisted in shaping the union's home care strategy. Melissa also served as Director of the Hispanic Education and Legal Fund (HELF), a citywide non-partisan voter registration program. In 2000 Melissa worked for the Census Bureau and was responsible for managing all local census operations for one of its five Manhattan offices. From 1996 to 1999 she served as Deputy Director of ASPIRA of New York, a youth leadership development organization, and was responsible for administering the agency's day-to-day operations.

In January of 2004 Melissa volunteered in Iowa working on behalf of Howard Dean's presidential campaign and directed Latino outreach in Davenport, Iowa. From September to November 2004 Melissa took a leave of absence from her job at 1199 SEIU and was hired by the Democratic National Committee to work on behalf of the Kerry/Edwards campaign in Florida to coordinate field operations for the St. Petersburg regional office.

Besides her professional life, Melissa has been very active in community affairs. She is a founding member of Women of El Barrio—an organization that promotes the development of women as leaders in the economic, political and social life of their community; served as Chair of the Violence Intervention Program—a community based domestic violence organization committed to ending violence in the lives of women and their children; and is a Board Member representing New York for the Boricua Initiative—a nationwide coalition of community activists committed to the political and economic empowerment of the Puerto Rican community.

# Peter Fassbender

**Mayor, City of Langley, British Columbia**

**Chair, TransLink Mayor's Council on Regional Transportation**



Peter Fassbender was elected for the first time to City Council on November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2002, then to his first term as Mayor on November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2005, and was re-elected as Mayor on November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

Married to his wife Charlene for over 43 years, they have two adult sons and three grandchildren who all live in the Langley area. Peter and Charlene have lived in the City of Langley for over 33 years and are both active in a number of other community activities.

In his role on Council, Mayor Fassbender has served on virtually every committee.

In addition to his local involvement, the Mayor also serves on the boards of a number of other provincial and national organizations including some of the following:

- Chair, Fraser Valley Regional Library Board
- Chair, TransLink Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation
- Co- Chair, Lower Mainland District RCMP/Mayors' Consultative Forum
- Co-Chair, Fraser Health Municipal Advisory Council
- Chair, Emergency Planning Committee
- Chair, Police Advisory Committee
- Chair, Social Planning Committee
- Chair, Community Day Committee
- Member, Tourism Langley
- Former Trustee, Langley School Board
- Metro Vancouver Board Alternate
- Member, Metro Vancouver Labour Relations Board
- Member, Metro Vancouver Mayors' Committee
- Member, Metro Vancouver Regional Planning Committee
- Member, Citizens Conservation Council on Climate Action

In his business career Mayor Fassbender worked in radio and television as well as a number of other communications fields. In his last 29 years Mayor Fassbender was a partner and senior executive with DDB Canada (formerly Palmer Jarvis), one of Canada's largest and most successful marketing and communications firms. In that capacity he dealt with both public and private sector clients at the local, national, and international levels.

Peter's vision for Langley City is to see the community meet the needs of all the citizens from youth to seniors. Transportation, homelessness, residential/business revitalization and long term planning are high on his agenda for Council and the community.

"In my time on Council and now as Mayor I appreciate the dedication and commitment of our staff and the many volunteers that serve this community. I am proud to be part of a team that continues to work toward providing all our citizens young and old the best quality of life that we can. I also believe that we will continue to see the commercial and business community grow and expand and hence continue to contribute to the future health and economic stability of our community. Langley City truly is "The Place To Be" for everyone – the place to live and raise our families, the place to do business and ultimately the place to build our futures together!"

# Richard Bergeron

Leader, Projet Montréal, Montréal, Quebec



Richard Bergeron came to Montreal in 1975 to study architecture at the *Université de Montréal*. He practiced architecture for two years before undertaking a Master's degree in Urban Studies. In between study years he served as a CUSO volunteer (Canadian University Service Overseas) in Guinea-Bissau. Upon completion of his degree he worked as a consultant for an urban planning firm.

In 1986, he enrolled once again at the *Université de Montréal*, this time in a doctoral program in Urban Planning, with a focus on urban policies in developing countries and involving a case study in Côte d'Ivoire. Involved in several research projects on urban policy, the management of urban services and the environment, he travelled extensively, namely in Burkina Faso, Haïti and Morocco. In 1991, Richard Bergeron defended his doctoral thesis and published his first book, *L'antidéveloppement : le prix du libéralisme*, with *L'Harmattan* Editors, in Paris.

From 1990 to 1992, Richard Bergeron was President of the *Fédération des coopératives d'habitation de l'île de Montréal*. In 1992-1993, he held the post of visiting professor at *Université Laval*, in the Master's Program in Regional Planning and Development. There followed two years of research on the economics of housing development, at the *Université de Montréal*, punctuated by several teaching assignments at the *Institut d'urbanisme*, as well as in the Master's Program of Environmental Science at the *Université du Québec à Montréal*.

From 1996, Richard Bergeron became a consultant for the *Ministère de la métropole*, whereby he conducted a dozen studies on the potential redevelopment of vacant lots around Montreal metro stations. During this period, he also wrote *Le livre noir de l'automobile*, published in 1999 by *Éditions Hypothèse*. He went on to serve as an analyst and editor for the group in charge of transportation at the *Mécanisme québécois de concertation sur les changements climatiques*. From 2000 to 2005, he was in charge of strategic analysis for the *Agence métropolitaine de transport*.

In 2003 he published *L'économie de l'automobile au Québec*, again with *Éditions Hypothèse*. Two years later, he pursued his reflection on our collective over-dependence on the automobile in a fourth book: *Les Québécois au volant, c'est mortel*, this time with *Les Intouchables* Editors.

In 2004, Richard Bergeron founded Projet Montréal. Less than a year later, in the election of November 2005, he garnered just under 9% of the vote for the mayoralty and he was elected city councillor in the borough of Plateau-Mont-Royal. In the Montreal municipal election of 2009, in which he once again ran for mayor, he received 25% of the vote and 14 members of his party were elected city and borough councillors. After the election, Mayor Tremblay opened the door of the executive committee to members of the opposition, and put him in charge of urbanism.

## **Gilles Bisson**

**MPP, Timmins-James Bay, Ontario**

**Transportation Critic, Ontario New Democratic Party**



Gilles Bisson was first elected in 1990. He currently serves as the party critic for Francophone Affairs, Ministry of Natural Resources, Transportation and Native Affairs. He also serves as the WHIP for the NDP Caucus.

Known as a tireless working MPP, Gilles has championed many causes including helping to expose the water crisis on First Nation communities like Kashechewan. He has fought hard to save forestry and mining jobs. Gilles has also toured the province over the last few years calling for stability on gasoline prices.

In his riding, he is known as the guy who can solve the world's problems. "If you have a problem go see Gilles Bisson" is often said. He is married and has 2 daughters.

## **Frank Klees**

**MPP, Newmarket-Aurora, Ontario**

**Transportation Critic, Ontario Progressive Conservative Party**



First elected to the Ontario Legislature in June 1995 to represent the riding of York Mackenzie, Frank Klees was re-elected in June 1999 for a second term as MPP for the new riding of Oak Ridges, and in October 2003 for a third term, once again in Oak Ridges. As a result of re-distributing of electoral boundaries, Frank sought election in the October 10, 2007 election in the new riding of Newmarket-Aurora, where he now serves as MPP.

Frank has served in a number of cabinet positions in the Ontario government including Chief Government Whip, Minister of Tourism and Recreation and Minister of Transportation. He currently has Critic responsibilities for

Transportation and Infrastructure. Several major government agencies are under the jurisdiction of these ministries including: Infrastructure Ontario, Ontario Realty Corporation and Waterfront Toronto

Although he has a successful track record in senior provincial government positions, Frank earned his reputation as someone who "gets things done" through his work on behalf of his constituents. Besides introducing a "Street Racing Bill" and an Organ Donation Bill, he helped secure a world-class Cardiac Care Centre in Newmarket and spearheaded the development of the "Oak Ridges Moraine Protection Act".

Frank is a 20 year resident of Aurora, where he lives with his wife Jaine. They have 2 adult children, Robert and Alissa.

# **Mike Schreiner**

**Leader, Green Party of Ontario**



Mike Schreiner was elected leader of the Green Party of Ontario on November 14, 2009. Mike is a leading advocate for independent businesses, sustainable communities and local food and farmers. Well known for his leadership in co-founding the award-winning Local Food Plus organization, Mike has a proven track record in business and not-for-profit leadership roles.

A respected, successful entrepreneur, Mike started his career in Toronto operating his own food distribution business for over 10 years that specialized in delivering local and natural foods to homes in Toronto. Building on that success, he helped to establish Local Food Plus, which works to bring farmers and consumers together to promote financially, socially and environmentally sustainable local food systems.

An active member of the Green Party of Ontario (GPO), Mike Schreiner represented the GPO as a candidate in the 2009 Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock by-election. Mike co-chaired the 2007 election platform committee for the party and served as Policy Coordinator from 2008-2009.

For the first time in the party's history, Mike Schreiner is a full-time leader traveling the province in support of Constituency Associations and community engagement activities. An experienced fundraiser, Mike intends to turn the GPO into a well-funded political party to ensure the Green voice is heard in the Legislature and across Ontario. In April 2010, Mike Schreiner became the nominated candidate in Simcoe-Grey. Mike will work hard to represent the constituents of Simcoe-Grey promoting a prosperous green economy that fosters vibrant local communities and promotes a healthier Ontario.

Active in the community Mike has served as the treasurer of his daughter's daycare, coached her baseball team, and served on the steering committee for Green Enterprise Toronto, the Toronto Food Policy Council and on the Board of Directors of FarmStart, among other organizations.

# Allan Thompson

**Regional Councillor, Town of Caledon/Peel Region, Ontario**



First elected to municipal council in the fall of 2003 as the Area Councillor for Ward 2, Town of Caledon, Allan Thompson is now taking on the new role as his constituents' representative at the regional council table. He is excited to begin this new opportunity and commits to advocating strongly and effectively for his constituents and the Region of Peel partnership.

A lifelong resident of the Town of Caledon, Allan, and his wife, Anne, are raising their two children on his family farm, which has been in the family for four generations. In an era where "work where you live" is enjoying increased popularity, both Allan and Anne already subscribe to and practice that philosophy.

Allan is a registered insurance broker with Caledon-based Mellow Insurance Limited of Bolton and Anne maintains a successful-home based journalism and communications business.

Active in his community, Allan is a Sunday School Teacher at Union Presbyterian Church and has served on various committees within the congregation.

Within the agricultural community, he is a past president of each the Peel Federation of Agriculture, the Peel Soil and Crop Improvement Association and the Halton-Peel Holstein Club. In 2002, he was the chairman of the Halton-Peel Hay West Committee, which saw the farmers and agribusiness communities of the Regions of Peel and Halton work together to donate 36 railway cars of hay. The hay was gathered and shipped from the Snelgrove shipping yards and made its way west to help the farmers in western Canada whose hay crops had been devastated by the prolonged drought.

He has served on numerous executives and committees throughout the Town of Caledon and the Region of Peel and prior to his election on council, he served as a member of the Greater Toronto Area agricultural committee studying land use issues.

Over the years Allan Thompson has received numerous accolades and recognitions for his community-minded dedication.

- 2001: Region of Peel Farm Family of the Year: Presented jointly by the Caledon Chamber of Commerce and the Brampton Board of Trade in recognition of their collective accomplishments and contributions to both the community and their industry
- 1991: Regional Nominee for the Ontario Outstanding Young Farmer program, a program committed to recognizing individuals who possess solid business sense in combination with a strong commitment to their community.
- 1987-1989: Selected to participate in the provincial Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program, a two-year leadership development initiative. At the time of his selection, Thompson was recognized as the youngest person in Ontario to be selected to participate in the highly-acclaimed program.
- 1984: Selected from amongst numerous representatives from across Canada to represent Canada at the World Congress for Young Farmers, held in Africa.

## **Peter Milczyn**

**Councillor, City of Toronto, Ontario**



Since his first election to municipal office in 1994 in the former City of Etobicoke, and through the amalgamation of municipalities in 1997, Councillor Peter Milczyn has been honoured to work for Etobicoke residents, City Councillors and the Mayor to make Etobicoke and Toronto a better place to live and work.

As Vice Chair of the Planning and Growth Management Committee, and TTC Commissioner, Councillor Milczyn has had a voice in determining the future direction of transportation for the City of Toronto and also the City's growth initiatives. He is especially proud to have led Council's approval of the vision of the West District Design Initiative for re-development and improvements to the

Westwood Theatre lands, Kipling-Islington TTC Stations, and Six Points Interchange redesign. As well, Peter has championed Council's approval and implementation of the 3-1-1 customer service initiative.

Prior to his election, Councillor Milczyn established PZM Design, a design, development and architectural consulting firm. He holds a Bachelor's degree from University of Toronto's Faculty of Architecture.

Councillor Milczyn was born and raised in south Etobicoke and currently lives in Sunnylea with his wife Rose and daughter Ariana.

## **Joyce Frustaglio**

**Regional Councillor, City of Vaughan/York Region, Ontario**

**Vice-Chair, York Region Transportation Services**



Joyce Frustaglio has lived in Vaughan since 1979 and has served the people of Vaughan both as a Local and Regional Councillor for over 21 years. She also served the residents of Ward 2 as a School Trustee on the York Catholic District School Board from 1982-1985.

For the past seventeen years the residents of Vaughan have been well served by Joyce Frustaglio's motto of always putting "People First". In addition to her many regular responsibilities as a member of numerous committees and boards, Joyce served as Chair of the York Region Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee for 10 years and is now the Chair of York Region Transit. During this

period she has played a major role in bringing forward numerous new initiatives and programs.

As an active volunteer in the community for over 35 years, Joyce has raised millions of dollars for many charitable organizations such as; Villa Charities, York Central Hospital, Cancer Society, the McMichael Canadian Art Gallery and more. Her contribution to the community has been acknowledged numerous times over the years. One very significant award came from the Minister of Citizenship and Culture in 1999 when she was awarded the Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award.