



**"Student safety during Covid comes first.  
That will be my number one priority."**

The biggest challenge that we face today during the COVID-19 crisis, is protecting the health and safety of students, teachers, and staff. Adapting the way the YRDSB teaches students in order to maintain and improve student outcomes will be the greatest educational challenge at the Board. I am asking for your vote so I can be your voice at the table making these important decisions.

#### **About Martin Buckingham**

My name is Martin Buckingham and I am running for Trustee in Richmond Hill Wards 1,2,4.

I'm a husband and a father to a 16 year-old boy on the autism spectrum. I am a passionate advocate for public, inclusive education. I will always put the needs of children and their families first.

#### **My Experience:**

My experience comes primarily from two areas, business and community service. I have the skills and I am ready to serve our community as your next school trustee.

I am the co founder of one of the largest special event companies in Southern Ontario. Starting as a two-person partnership in 1998, we grew to a seasonal staff of over 70. The team building, branding, HR and financial planning were all under my direct oversight. We have a solid reputation of excellence in our field, a commitment to staff advancement, safety, continuous improvement and fiscal responsibility.

My community service involves being President, BOD, Giant Steps Toronto, President, Vinegar Hill Ratepayer's Association, and Board member, Ontario Autism Coalition, where I am also Co-Chair, Education Working Group and Co-Chair, Governance Committee. These volunteer positions have educated me in a working knowledge of interaction with all three levels of government. I have advised on public policy at a Provincial level, presented to council on a municipal level, and always vigorously advocated for the best interests of my organizations, some of which represent the most vulnerable children in society.

### **Our Shared Future:**

I've lived in York Region for 30 years. Its' residents are dynamic, diverse, generous, and innovative. Our school board should reflect the unique nature of York Region in its policies and initiatives to shape the leaders of tomorrow.

We are entering a new era of challenges and adaptation. We need a school board that is up to the task. We need Champions of Change. I will be your champion at the school board.

I have the experience, the passion, and the know-how to do the job. I need your vote on October 19<sup>th</sup> so I can get to work for you on October 20<sup>th</sup>

### **Quick Facts about Me:**

- I was born in England and immigrated to Canada in 1966
- I have lived in two provinces (Ontario and Quebec) and three countries (Canada, UK and USA)
- My personal interests are cooking, live music, and art
- I love basketball and golf (when I get the time!)

### **My Contact Information:**

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