The last five months have been a whirlwind, and the beginning of a decade-long dream to run for federal office—a dream inspired by the Honourable Roy Cullen, who has served Etobicoke North and Canada so beautifully over the last 12 years.

I am born and raised in Etobicoke, and I love our beautiful, proud, vibrant community. I believe our greatest strength is that we welcomed people from all over the world, and that we are a microcosm of the globe.

It is a joy to meet our communities, and I am so grateful for the warm welcome that I have received, and for the support so generously given. It has been a tremendous honour and privilege to attend numerous events in Etobicoke North these past months which have varied from business networking events to engaging in the diverse cultural events. As a result, I have been able to help people find ESL programmes, foreign trained professional accreditation, job finding services, and occupation specific training.

I regularly meet with Etobicoke North’s many community organizations, such as Breaking the Cycle, which is a community based initiative dedicated to getting youth out of gangs.

I am also a strong supporter of the YWCA, and have worked with this organization to ensure women entering the workforce (some for the very first time) have the resources and tools they need to succeed.

Most of all, I am dedicated to the big challenges facing our community, including: championing families from childhood through to old age; building safer neighborhoods, tackling the root causes of crime, reuniting families, fighting for improved foreign credential recognition; and reducing wait times in our healthcare system.

I know and love this community. I know the issues, I know the challenges, and I know how to take action and make a difference. Now, I need your help to help make my vision a reality. I invite you to visit our website and get involved with our team to make a difference in Etobicoke North.
Ever wonder what a campaign actually does? Is there more to it than the endless lawn signs, hours of TV advertising and parade of door knockers?

Campaigns are staffed by enthusiastic Canadians who are interested in participating in the democratic process. The main focus of any campaign is simple: GETTING OUT THE VOTE

The first priority of a campaign is to get people to vote. Campaigns strive to get more citizens to participate in the democratic process and raise awareness around the fact that an election is happening.

A good campaign will also ensure that the candidate is in tune with the needs of its constituents. Unfortunately, the national or even regional concerns that are highlighted in the media often don’t reflect all the concerns of an average constituent or person living in Etobicoke North. The feedback campaigns receive from door-knocking or making phone calls to residents is vital and is the first step in being able to find the appropriate method and manner to help address the needs of residents.

The most important day of a campaign is election day. On this day, every volunteer who can spare their time will be out knocking on the doors of people who have promised support, reminding them to vote and offering them assistance if needed to get to the polling stations. This is the part of the campaign in which the coined phrase “get out the vote” is often used.

Above all, campaigns are about gaining the trust and the votes of the constituents. We welcome you to participate in the truest form of grassroots democracy by joining the Kirsty Duncan Campaign.

What does a campaign cost?

(These are some sample costs for select campaign items)

- Campaign Office & Utilities: $120 a day
- Telephones/Internet/Website: $100 a day
- Signs: $2.30 each
- Flyers: $0.15 each
- Rentals & Fuel Costs: $140 a day
- Special Events: $1000-$4000 total
- Other Campaign Expenses: $170 a day

Donate and sponsor, for example, the rental of the office for a day. Or 100 signs. Every bit helps!
How can you get involved?

**VOLUNTEER:** The Duncan campaign is currently looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help in a variety of tasks including: organizing events, participating in door canvassing, participating in phone canvassing, assisting in computer and admin duties, etc.

**DONATE:** Campaigns can be very expensive, and much of it must be financed through donations by constituents and Canadians who want to express themselves through the democratic process. In fact it is the average constituent who donates to a political party that helps make the political process work. Without such engaged people, political parties would not be able to get their message out in a way that allows people to make informed voting decisions.

**INVITE:** Invite Kirsty to events in your neighborhood and community! We value the rich and diverse community of Etobicoke North and Kirsty is dedicated to getting to know each of them. If you are having event in the Etobicoke community or would like to introduce Kirsty to your business, religious, social or cultural group, please contact us today with your event request.

**GET A SIGN:** To show your support for Kirsty during the campaign you can put a sign on your lawn or in the front of your business. We are currently taking requests to reserve Kirsty Duncan signs for your household or business! Please contact us today with your reservation.

For more more information on how to get involved please contact Ivan Yiu at ivan.yiu@kirstyduncan.ca

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**CLIMATE CHANGE & THE GREEN SHIFT**

Climate change is the most pressing environmental issue facing our planet, and it is happening right now. Our Earth is getting warmer, glaciers are receding, and sea level is rising. Each year, we hear of more and more heat waves—35,000 died in Europe in 2003—and extreme weather events (e.g. Hurricane Katrina, which destroyed 300,000 homes, and displaced 770,000 people).

Climate change threatens Canadian society—more heat waves, more smog. In 2002, business leaders voted climate change the most serious threat confronting the world's business community at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

We must therefore act now to protect our children, and their children’s future. The Liberal Party of Canada is committed to reducing greenhouse gases (GHGs) and slowing climate change to protect our planet and humanity.

The plan is the Green Shift and it is exciting and revolutionary. The plan will tax what you burn, not what you earn. That is, the Green Shift will tax those who produce GHGs, pollution, and waste because these are detrimental to the health of people and our planet. The Green Shift will cut taxes for income, innovation, and investment because we want these good items.

The Green Shift will be revenue neutral. The tax the government collects will be returned to Canadians. This will be put into law, and annually reviewed by the Auditor General. The Green Shift will therefore help the planet, people’s health, and the pocketbook of Canadians.
Looking to contact the campaign?
E-mail: info@kirstyduncan.ca or ivan.yiu@kirstyduncan.ca
Find us on the web at: www.kirstyduncan.ca or on facebook!

Once the election is called we will have a permanent campaign office and phone number. Until then, feel free to contact Ivan Yiu (Campaign Chair) as your primary point of contact!

WANT TO VOLUNTEER OR DONATE?

The Kirsty Duncan campaign needs you to succeed! Our campaign is always in need of people to help knock on doors, staff events and make phone calls to people in the community.

If you can commit to 3 or 4 hours a week you would be making a very valuable contribution towards sending a very strong, passionate and accomplished voice to Ottawa from Etobicoke North. Even though there is no election now, we are very hard at work going door to door and attending various community events.

There are always opportunities for volunteers to get involved, so please feel free to get in contact with Ivan or Kirsty to find out how you can help!

If you can’t volunteer due to family or work, if you could make a financial contribution to the campaign that would also help us pay for the campaign office, purchase signs and feed the volunteers.

Please contact Ivan or Kirsty to find out what your donation will go towards, and how to make that donation.

Remember, political donations up to $400 come with a 75% tax credit (so the $400 is really $100!) Amounts over $400 and up to the limit of $1100 also are eligible for tax credits!

KIRSTY STANDS UP FOR DARFUR

On Sunday April 13, 2008 Kirsty joined thousands of Canadians in the national Day for Darfur rally in Nathan Phillips Square. Accompanied by many Liberal MPs from the GTA, Kirsty had the honour of joining activists, speakers and performers in the plight to bring greater awareness to the genocide in Darfur.

More than five years have passed since the crisis in Darfur started. With over 4.5 million people now affected by the crisis—many of which are displaced persons who depend on humanitarian assistance to survive—raising awareness about the devastation in Darfur is an issue Kirsty is passionate about.

CELEBRATING THE DIVERSITY OF ETOBICOKE-NORTH

Kirsty joined over 100,000 community members in Etobicoke to celebrate Vaisakhi at the Annual Khalsa Day Parade. One of the largest Sikh parades in Canada, Kirsty joined residents of Etobicoke North in celebrating the values of Sikhism.

Earlier this month, Kirsty had the honour of being a Guest speaker at a service held at the Ghana Methodist Church. As a strong promoter of multiculturalism Kirsty spoke about her experiences growing up in Etobicoke and the role diversity has played in enriching the community of Etobicoke North.

Last month, Kirsty met with members of the Caribbean Business Network to collaborate on initiatives to bring greater partnership and investment between Canada and the Caribbean.

Kirsty at the Day for Darfur

Kirsty at the Day for Darfur

Kirsty visiting the Ghana Church

Kirsty with the South Asian Senior’s

Kirsty with members of the community

KI RS TY IN THE COMMUNITY

Celebrating the Diversity of Etobicoke-North

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