FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ajax Public Library Launches Kids Civic Engagement Campaign

9 October 2026—Ajax Public Library is looking for a Champion and we need your children's help!

Vote for Your Library Champion was created to start a conversation with children about civic engagement—specifically voting—in a format that is age-appropriate and fun. There are four friendly candidates who are eager to become the inaugural champion: Barkley the Dog, Sheldon the Turtle, Dewey the Cat, and Bizzy the Bee. These four champions represent different parts of the library and allow children to think about which champion aligns with them and their interests.

"Our hope is that this initiative teaches children to understand the different aspects of voting and why it is important," says Christy Harper, Manager of Public Service. "They can choose to participate in early voting or join us for our official voting day celebration on October 21. We hope it empowers all who participate and lets them know that their opinion matters and can make a difference."

According to Elections Canada, turn out for the youngest voters (ages 18-24) remains lower than other age groups. (Source: Elections Canada, Youth Voting Trends)
The Library hopes civic engagement initiatives like this one generate an interest in democratic processes and voting starting at a young age.

Early voting for the Library Champions began on Monday, October 5, at all library branches, and will continue until our official voting day on Wednesday, October 21. To learn more about each candidate and what they represent, visit ajaxlibrary.ca/kids-vote, or follow us on social media for campaign updates.

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