

*See our website for current rates.

MogoMortgage

2.59%

5 Year Fixed Rate Special

Why wait to
have a good
night sleep?



Clearance Priced Mattresses Everyday.

TEMPUR PEDIC

SAF
STEARNS & FOSTER[®]
ALASKA FURS

Snoozy

Milo's
Furniture Fashions
SINCE 1986

NEWS LOCAL

Krmpotich to carry NDP banner

Wednesday, January 25, 2017 8:53:44 EST PM



GETTY IMAGES

Ward 6 city councillor Joe Krmpotich has been acclaimed the NDP candidate in a yet-to-be announced provincial byelection.

Krmpotich, born and raised in Sault Ste. Marie, received the nod from the local association Wednesday night.

He described himself as a third-generation steelworker who is "a people person" who cares deeply about Sault Ste. Marie and the people who live here.

Krmpotich, 60, who currently holds the title of union co-ordinator with the United Steelworkers Local 2251, says as a union activist, he's acquired years of experience in the political arena both in Ottawa and at Queen's Park.

"I'm coming to the end of my career with the United Steelworkers and I think it's time to move and put my skills to work with the province," Krmpotich said. "At this point, I believe I can represent the municipality and the people of Sault Ste. Marie at Queen's Park."

Krmpotich said he's had discussions with his family and close friends and believes now is the time to throw his hat into the ring.

"There are a number of issues that we need to be working on, like hydro costs, health care and education," Krmpotich said. "They all need be brought to the forefront."

He vows to work hard for the community, with the New Democrat party.

Krmpotich, said he's currently facilitating a stewards course for the union, and there is a clear recognition that more thought must go toward the welfare of future generations.

Krmpotich said when he graduated from high school, young men could enter the workforce with good-paying union jobs, whereas now they're attending years of post-secondary school and many are still only finding jobs slightly above minimum wages with no pensions or benefits.

"That's a concern for everyone," he said. "I can't predict the future but the NDP works hard as a party and we care about communities and people and future generations."

Krmpotich recognizes that the New Democrats have not had a stronghold on the riding of Sault Ste. Marie since David Orazietti won the seat from Tony Martin in 2003.

"We want to make the government about people again. The government needs to work for us, for working people, for small businesses and for our kids and our elderly and that's the message I want to get out," he said. "We're going to be out pounding the pavement and going out it like there is no tomorrow."

Krmpotich said Ontario NDP Leader Andrea Horwath believes in opportunity and security for everyone.

"We are hitting the ground running in this riding. We have a great candidate... and a wonderful team already hard at work," said Karla Webber-Gallagher, Ontario NDP's provincial secretary. Horwath was in Sault Ste. Marie for the nomination meeting and kickoff.

Krmpotich, now in his second term as a city councillor, is married and has two children.

He's served on a number of city boards and committees, including the Sault Ste. Marie Airport board, social services administration board, Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority and United Steelworkers Community Services Committee.

Premier Kathleen Wynne has yet to formally call a byelection to replace David Orazietti.

Orazietti, who served more than 13 years as the city's MPP, resigned in December, citing the need to spend more time with his family.

In November, Krmpotich's wardmate, Ross Romano, was acclaimed during a provincial Progressive Conservative Association nomination meeting.

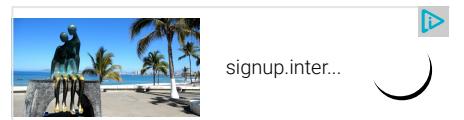
The married father of three, a local lawyer, is serving his first term as a city councillor.

The local Liberal association has yet to select its candidate.

However, another city councillor, Matthew Shoemaker, told The Sault Star earlier he has been asked to run with the Liberal banner, but has not yet decided.

Shoemaker said he's weighing whether it's best for him to serve as a city councillor or as the city's MPP. He said he also has to consider the impact of being away from his wife to serve in the provincial legislature, should he be elected.

Wynne must call the byelection by June 30.



This Week's Flyers



walmart.ca All items avail online NO TAX

HOVER FOR FLYER

Walmart



The Home Depot update&save event Drop A Line

LET'S DO MORE FOR LESS.

NOW \$109

30" Euro Vanity with Sink and Cabinet
24" W x 18" D x 36" H

\$234

HOVER FOR FLYER

The Home Depot

