

# Shoemaker on Amazon Bid, “We will use the bid as a learning experience “

By **Craig Huckerby** - January 18, 2018



Ward 3 councillor, Matthew Shoemaker spearheaded the local pitch for Amazon’s 2nd HQ in North America last Summer, knowing it was a long shot at best.

Today, a short list of cities was disclosed and Sault Ste. Marie didn’t make the cut, but Toronto did.



“Sault Ste. Marie put together an excellent bid that pitched the greatness of our City to Amazon. We were up against major metros like New York, Washington and Chicago.” Shoemaker told SaultOnline.com Thursday morning.

4 sites in the city were identified in the Sault Ste. Marie pitch that would be large enough to accomodate the 50,000 squire foot building required. Amazon said it would create employment for about 50,000 people.

“We knew it would be an uphill battle but we got national recognition for our efforts. We will use the bid as a learning experience and I’ll keep making every effort to push for diversification of the Sault’s economy.” Shoemaker said.

Hundreds of cities from Canada and the United States vied for the HQ location and the billions of dollars that would come with it.

At its September 25 meeting, Council voted unanimously to submit a bid for Amazon’s second headquarters. Councillors Matthew Shoemaker and Ozzie Grandinetti tabled the motion that hopes to land the \$5 billion project with as many as 50,000 jobs. A committee consisting of Councillors Shoemaker, Myers and Grandinetti spearheaded the City’s effort to submit the bid.

Toronto remains in the running however the other cities under consideration are New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles, Denver and Nashville.

### **Craig Huckerby**

Craig Huckerby is a seasoned broadcast and media professional with over 35 years in local media. Starting in television, Craig became known as "the weather guy" on local television before pioneering internet media in the Sault. Craig is credited for bringing local television back to the Sault via the internet in 2003 with LTVNEWS.COM and was instrumental in launching SooNews.ca and Local2.ca. Craig is happy to be part of the Sault's newest media team and website, SaultOnline.com

