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2018 Municipal Election Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name:

Municipality

Date:

Bruce Wiggins

Ward 4

October 03, 2018

Please return the completed questionnaire to the sender as soon as possible, but no later than October 4, 2018. The answers will then be posted on the AWARE Simcoe website.

N.B: As this is a Word document, you can take as much space as you wish to respond.

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1. Water is a finite resource. Do you feel there is a need to protect water, wetlands and recharge areas from development, aggregate extraction and other intrusive activities in your municipality? If so, how will you achieve this?

ANSWER

Absolutely, the health of our groundwater is crucial. Every development must be scrutinized to ensure that it meets the most stringent criteria for ensuring our waters safety. I believe we have all the regulations needed, they just need to be enforced.

Why do something second rate.

2. Development charges never fully cover the cost of new development. Will you make sure that all costs that *should be* paid by development charges under existing legislation *are* covered? When considering an application, on what basis will you decide whether a development is a net benefit for the community?

ANSWER

Yes, all development charges should be levied and also paid in advance.

3. Do you support/oppose expansion of the Greenbelt into Simcoe County? In either case, please explain why.

ANSWER

Support expansion of the greenbelt if farmers are protected.

4. Simcoe County Council chose a county forest in Springwater – zoned Agricultural – as the site for a (needed) waste handling facility, the Environmental Resource Recovery Centre. Springwater Township objected, pointing out that this is an industrial use and there are suitable properties zoned Industrial. What is your view?

ANSWER

I agree with Springwater. It makes absolutely no sense to cut down a Simcoe County Forest to locate any new industry, especially a large recycling plant. If there is a lack of industrial land we need to address that issue head on. These Forests are limited and a wonder to people who travel to the County. It should not be treated as a land bank.

5. Since 1924, the Ontario Tree Seed Facility in Angus performed a vital task for the whole province of coordinating seed collection from 37 zones across the province to ensure seedlings are returned to grow in the zone to which they are uniquely suited. The Progressive Conservative government is reviewing the closing ordered by the Liberals.

What is your opinion on this matter?

ANSWER

I would like to see the seed bank and storage facility open and reinvigorated.

6. If elected, what are your top three priorities?

ANSWER

1. Open and honest discussion between the Township, Council and residents, The Township Council can appear to be adversarial and dismissive. There's a lot of healing to do on both sides and it has to begin with honest communication.

2. As a fan of soccer a with numerous nephews and nieces playing in OM, I am determined to develop the Township owned land behind the arena and ball park on Line 4. This site is 60+ \- acres and could be developed through Grants and fundraising to include multi purpose family playing fields including soccer fields (Burls Creek is currently paid 5k per year to lease its fields).

3. Produce a budget with the priorities being the roads, Policing and infrastructure.

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Thank you for completing the AWARE Simcoe candidate questionnaire.