



www.aware-simcoe.ca

2014 Municipal Election Candidate Questionnaire

This questionnaire has been compiled by AWARE Simcoe with input from twelve other like-minded NGOs.

AWARE Simcoe considers the preservation of farmland, the protection of water quality and natural heritage and providing transparency in government decision making to be the primary issues of this election. Our goal is to elect representatives who support those objectives.

Question 1

If elected, will you undertake to make decisions consistent with the protection of food producing farmland (classes 1 - 4) and source water regions?

Answer: Yes No **Not only that, but, we need to do a better job of promoting locally produced farm products. It's a shame our municipality has not joined/supported the "Simcoe County Farm Fresh" initiative.**

Question 2

Will you sign/have you signed the Food and Water First Pledge?

<http://foodandwaterfirst.com/pledge/>

Answer: Yes No **I thought I did a while ago, so wasn't sure, so I signed again.**

Question 3

Are you prepared to make Natural Heritage preservation in Simcoe County a priority?

Answer: Yes No

Question 4

If elected, will you:

a) Hold closed meetings only when absolutely necessary.

Answer: Yes No **The law is very clear which closed door meetings are allowed. I believe we need to ensure this is strictly adhered to at all times and councillors should always question the subject matter publicly to encourage accountability. The public should also have the right to know what particular subject matter is discussed.**

b) Will you support video recording council meetings, including County Council?

Answer: Yes No **Absolutely. In fact, it is my goal to have detailed verbatim minutes recorded via written, audio or video measures. Our new municipal building/council chamber was built for audio recorded meetings – what changed?**

c) Seek public input for any new development proposals within your municipality?

Answer: Yes No **But the dialogue needs to happen at the founding stages. Not when the developer is ready with shovel in hand. The council meetings with developers outside of the council chamber needs to end.**

d) Support the use of the Provincial Ombudsman to investigate in-camera meeting violations?

Answer: Yes No **I'm perplexed as to why certain councils, ours included, have opted to pay for an investigator rather than a taxpayer pre-paid source such as the Provincial Ombudsman.**

Question 5

If elected, will you undertake to only support new private development proposals that have had a cost/benefit analysis (including impact on urban sprawl and municipal taxes) done by the municipality and paid for by the developer.

Answer: Yes No **This is critically important for large scale developments seeking 500+ homes in one fell swoop. There is a legacy cost to large scale developments – of which the developer is no longer on the hook once built.**

Question 6

If elected, will you support the creation of a lobby registry for local and County government?

Answer: Yes No **I'm surprised there isn't one now.**

Question 7

a) Does your campaign accept corporate or union donations?

Answer: Yes No

COMMENTS:

Candidate Name:  Municipality  Date:
.....Leo Losereit - Mayor... ..Adjala-Tosorontio... September 18, 2014

Please return the completed questionnaire to the sender as soon as possible, but not later than September 19, 2014. The results will be posted on the AWARE Simcoe website.

Thank you for completing the AWARE Simcoe Candidate Questionnaire.