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2018 Municipal Election Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name:

Municipality

Date:

Christopher Baines.....Collingwood

Sept 30 '18.....

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Please return the completed questionnaire to the sender as soon as possible, but no later than October 4, 2018. **N.B: As this is a Word document, you can take as much space as you wish to respond.** The answers will be posted on the AWARE Simcoe website.

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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 :

Yes I do. I have had a long association with land trusts in the province and have served on the International Joint Commission (Public Interest Advisory Group) on water levels. Water quality and quantity is – or should be – an on-going issue. I also used to be Canadian Director of the Centre for the Great Lakes – a think tank on sustainable development. All of us on the Great Lakes have a long term public trust to protect and enhance our waters everywhere.

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

I will certainly advocate and vote for this but if elected I will be one of nine votes on council.

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

ANSWER

I support the expansion of the Greenbelt into Simcoe County (indeed Collingwood may need a mini Greenbelt.)

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

As a member of the committee that recommended this site I fully agree and endorse this site and would love the opportunity to explain its benefits over the 506 other sites considered. This one hits all the marks and no other site did. Alternative is to – once again – ship all our organics to Hamilton.

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

It should be re-established ASAP.

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

ANSWER

- 1) Ward system for Collingwood
- 2) Affordable housing strategy
- 3) Community lead sustainable development

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Thank you for completing the AWARE Simcoe candidate questionnaire