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## 2018 Municipal Election Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name:

Municipality

Date:

...Tina Comi.....

Collingwood.....

...October 3, 2018.....

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

I absolutely feel there is a need to protect water and fully recognize it as a finite resource under enormous pressure from development. I feel water protection can be best achieved by listening to and being an advocate for the agencies and organizations committed to water and wetland protection.

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

Development charges are quite high for Collingwood and we must balance these fees with our need for affordable housing. What we can do is work to ensure we are asking all we can from our developers with respect to greenspaces, protection of existing trees and encouraging development that can evolve over time. Multi-use developments, developments that promote walking and cycling and sustainable practices such as community gardens – are most welcome.

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

ANSWER

I do support the expansion and efforts of AWARE and the other local groups in this undertaking. Protection of our waterways and “green infrastructure” is more important than ever given the ongoing pressure for growth and development in Collingwood and surrounding areas.

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 am not familiar with all the details of this decision. We certainly know that with growth we will face increasing demand for waste handling facilities and waste treatment facilities and that placement and location of them is often challenging. It is unfortunate to lose any forest and one would hope that all due diligence was done to ensure that there was no other feasible option.

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 is my understanding that the latest on this matter is that some commitment has been made by Jim Wilson to try to save this important facility and at the very least – keep it in the public’s hands.

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

My three priorities for Collingwood are:

1 – Protection of our greenspaces.

From parkland to wetland we face enormous pressure from growth and we must endeavour to keep our decisions sustainable for generations to come.

2 – Preservation of our town’s unique heritage.

Collingwood’s unique architectural, culture and natural heritage must be protected.

3 – Prioritizing the safety of cyclists and pedestrians.

Collingwood is an active community, we must do more to make it safe for our pedestrians and cyclists.

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Thank you for completing the AWARE Simcoe candidate questionnaire