



www.aware-simcoe.ca

2018 Municipal Election Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name:

Municipality

Date:

Ian Veitch

Oro-Medonte

Oct.3/18 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.

=====

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 feel there is a need to protect water, wetlands and recharge areas from certain impactful activities. There are a variety of ways to achieve this: ensuring meaningful public and professional consultation at an early stage in the planning process to protect such significant areas as source protection zones, ensuring that the necessary environmental safeguards are incorporated into proposed changing land use proposals, especially that involve review agencies and others to ensure sustainability of our water resources. Green belts or equivalent enhanced environmental protection plans that consider the water resources as a watershed system are likely required to ensure protection of the most significant water based systems.

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 .. I believe that we should have development charges that pay a more realistic cost of net growth .. for example you shouldn't just allow a developer to pay for a throw away interim private sewage servicing system that lasts 10-20 years, then ask the residents to pay much more for a new municipal sewage servicing system for 40-50+ years of useful life .. the interim multimillion dollar costs should have been invested in the longer term system to avoid paying twice, and the residents bills become exorbitant. Also the actual costs of the long term servicing infrastructure should be charged to the developer with consideration for the net benefits achieved, including net benefits to the tax base, jobs, new business generation, and other community enhancements.

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

ANSWER

I support further consideration of Green Belt expansion in Simcoe County, such as along the Oro Moraine, or using equivalent enhanced environmental protection measures for significant ecological systems, such as ground water recharge areas, that may fall through the cracks with just existing enabling legislation, polices or plans.

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 would like to review more of the facts of the matter to be able to offer a definitive conclusion. My initial reaction is that if we can locate a waste handling facility, which may have various environmental impacts, in a more suitable area outside of a county forest and away from residents and recreational uses, such as in more industrialized zones, we may be able to better protect the significant natural, social & economic benefits of such areas.

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

Significant forest regeneration, diversity, and conservation are worthwhile objectives. I would like to see more of the facts of the closing of the seed facility before providing a more fulsome opinion on the matter.

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

ANSWER

- 1) More meaningful, community engagement in planning and decision-making to help meet the challenges of significant growth and development ahead.
- 2) More open, transparent and fiscally responsible government that will be needed to meet the financial pressures ahead for new, fair, sustainable, and improved infrastructure, including municipal water and sewage servicing systems, roads, education and recreational enhancements, and related needs for high speed internet and better cell phone coverage to support more new businesses eg. home based, and improved quality of life for families, youth, seniors and others.
- 3) Public safety and environmental protections that come with the increasing intensity of use with major community growth, requiring new partnerships with others, including community watch with the OPP & county for avoidance of crime, clearcutting, and protections of such significant natural resources as the Copeland Forest away from ATVs/ORVs on our roads and new development on its border.

=====

Thank you for completing the AWARE Simcoe candidate questionnaire