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2022 Municipal Election Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name:

Municipality

Date:

Anita Moore

Springwater Township

Sept 11, 2022

Please return the completed questionnaire to the sender as soon as possible, but no later than September 15, 2022. 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. AWARE Simcoe considers the preservation of farmland, the protection of water resources and natural heritage, and providing transparency and accountability in government decision making to be the primary issues of this election.

Our goal is to elect representatives who support those objectives. Do you agree with this?

ANSWER – Yes, I do! A very large part of our township is devoted to farmland, the agricultural community and greenspace. Continuing to respect those boundaries and interests is what makes our community strong, cohesive and unique but also sends a message that these principles are very important to our community. Most recently this has been under attack by entities who do not wish to respect our dedicated “green buffer zone” in the south of the Township which Council did unanimously renew their commitment to uphold. I am afraid however that if environmentally conscious Councillors are not elected his term to represent in a similar manner, the enormous pressure to develop this into an industrial space would be renewed.

2. 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 there is a need to protect all of what makes Springwater so eclectic i.e. our pure water sources, the Minesing wetlands and the need to continue to balance that with having our own aggregate for road repairs etc., but always weighing the harms

vs the risk of upsetting natural ecosystems along the way. Disruption of this is never a price I am willing to pay. By strongly promoting our Township as a holder of these unique features and stronger messaging that these areas must be protected will hopefully dissuade developers from disrupting what we are so fortunate to have avail for everyone. The Minesing wetlands(60 sq. km), managed by the NVCA are a designated Ramsar boreal wetland providing habitat to rare birds, animals, and plant species that is under threat and it is our job to consider all risks when presented with development that could impact these very important areas in our Township

3. Ancient deposits under the Simcoe Uplands in Simcoe County's Tiny, Springwater, Oro-Medonte and Tay townships contain pristine groundwater.

This water is the purest water known to science, and is the gold standard for water worldwide, a national and global treasure.

Ongoing gravel pit extractions on French's Hill, the water recharge area, now threaten to destroy this precious water. Will you work to protect this important local resource?

ANSWER - Absolutley !

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

ANSWER – I do – unfortunately if we do not present a united front and show that keeping agriculture, farming, and our natural heritage designated lands as the priority, then I feel it will be under threat of development. Thankfully our new Official Plan along with the Simcoe County Comprehensive Review on land uses provides a clearer roadmap of expectations for the future of our Township but there will always be those that push the limits

5. What are your plans to combat climate change in your municipality?

ANSWER

As a Municipality we have an obligation to promote SMART/GREEN building practices with any developers wanting to do business here. We can outline criteria that must be met with site plan controls that dictate infrastructure and the use of building materials that reduce the carbon footprint as well as using green sourced products. We need to continue to promote water conservation and recycling methods that reduce and reuse where possible.

6. Every municipality in Ontario is faced with row-on-row sprawl-style development, and surrounding farmland is being destructively gobbled up with little regard for future agricultural needs. Ontario is losing 319 acres of farmland every day, it needs to be

protected before it's too late. We need to ensure we have the land to grow food for today and future generations. Once it's paved over, it's gone forever!

How will you protect agricultural lands within your municipality?

ANSWER

I protected our farmland in the south of the Township by creating a policy for MZO applications when brought forward which we know can circumvent all planning policy. This new policy will not guarantee that MZO's won't be granted but at least they will need to endorse a full public consultation, site plan controls and various studies so all are informed and can ask the questions important to them

7. Simcoe County Council chose a county forest in Springwater Twp – zoned Agricultural, as the site for a (much needed) waste handling facility, the Environmental Resource Recovery Centre (ERRC). Many residents in Simcoe County objected to this location, pointing out that this is an industrial use and there are suitable properties zoned Industrial where the facility should be built. What is your view?

ANSWER – It seems like the oddest location possible! I understand we need to find a space for the ERRC – but why this location was chosen out of so many others was never fully explained to point of understanding. The lack of consideration for the nearby farmers or which the effects of the ERRC will have on livestock, water etc., remains unknown

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

ANSWER

1. Continue to enforce strict planning policies and process – follow our new Official Plan and the County Review for our area

2. Transparency and Communication – ensuring residents are made aware of projects brought forward that will affect their daily lives

3. Encourage volunteering and good land stewardship

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Thank you for completing the AWARE Simcoe candidate questionnaire.