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2022 Municipal Election Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name:

Municipality

Date:

Ann-Marie Kungl

Barrie

Sept. 14, 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?

Yes

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?

Yes. We set a new Official Plan for Barrie which is currently under review by the province. I'll look to ensure the policies that will guide implementation appropriately support the intention set in our Official Plan through protecting our water quality, water bodies, wetlands and natural heritage. I'll look to understand the health and capacity of our landfill and ask for alternatives to hard surfacing landscapes. I'll look to guidance in the The Lake Simcoe Protection Plan standard for watershed management and advocate for it to be expanded to include all of Simcoe County.

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?

Yes

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

Yes. I support expansion of the Greenbelt into Simcoe County. We need secured protection through expanding the Greenbelt to ensure the mitigation of sprawl in precious areas and wildlife corridors and which results in loss of valuable farmland, green spaces and the exhaustion of our fresh water supplies.

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

To support the continuance of our strong Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee and maintain a focus on climate action and Barrie as a greener city in our strategic priorities. Barrie has developed a climate change adaptation strategy and implementation plan to address physical, economic, social and ecological impacts of climate change. We need to prioritize resources to achieve goals sooner. I will continue to put a focus on efforts to drive the implementation plan forward.

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?

I will push for good infill development and support development strategies that enable growth in built boundaries and complete communities designed with a promotion of active transportation and access to parks and open spaces. Further, I'll support policies that direct growth to primary settlement areas and other established settlement areas with existing infrastructure and to areas in close proximity to major transportation corridors.

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?

If there are other suitable properties for a waste handling facility they should be fully explored over one zoned Agricultural. The utmost protection should be given to protecting and sustaining agricultural areas.

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

ANSWER

1. More aggressive action and progress on our climate adaptation strategy and implementation plan for Barrie.
2. Promotion of healthy, connected affordable communities where all may thrive.
3. Protecting and sustaining our water quality, lakes and natural heritage spaces.

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Thank you for completing the AWARE Simcoe candidate questionnaire.