



2022 Municipal Election Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name:

Municipality

Date:

Corey Mainprize

Springwater

September 15, 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

I support these objectives, and agree all decisions should be transparent.

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

I agree it is very important to protect our water resources and sensitive land areas. Municipalities must designate these areas and prohibit activities in them (and include appropriate buffers near them) that can damage these areas forever. I would support municipal program that provide incentives to developers and business that create and maintain environmentally sustainable operations.

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

I believe this operation needs to be reviewed by an independent expert. The concept of using 1.5 million litres a day of pristine groundwater to wash rock is very concerning.

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

ANSWER

I fully support the expansion of the Greenbelt into Springwater on all Federal, Provincial, County, Municipal, and any private held property where the landowner agrees.

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

ANSWER

I would advocate that Springwater develop a climate change action plan that would include policies for all municipal programs including but not limited to:

- Fleet conversion to renewable energy where appropriate
- Net zero building construction for municipal projects
- Municipal energy audit and energy reduction plan
- Incentives for tree replacement programs

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

This is an incredibly complex challenge. Municipalities have the lowest level of authority, but the greatest responsibility to protect these lands. The market value of land for development is overshadowing the long range planning of how we intend to feed a growing population. A food supply crisis seems inevitable at the current rate agricultural land is being converted to housing. Prohibiting development (at the municipal level) on agricultural land is impossible given the current Provincial policy.

Agricultural land is non-renewable resource that must be protected. I would support and advocate that Springwater work with experts like the OFA, and OFT to develop programs that support our local agricultural sector.

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

The ERRC should have been built on land already zoned industrial, conversion of land zoned agricultural to industrial demonstrated the country’s commitment to the preservation of this non-renewable resource. It is fundamentally wrong to convert this type of land when other options were available.

I would have supported the construction of this project being located on Bertram Industrial Parkway site. This was best location given the current land zoning, traffic impact, and resident safety.

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

ANSWER

1. Sustainable growth and development that includes the protection of land.
2. Access to recreation and parks that promote active healthy lifestyles
3. The development of responsible budgets that deliver the services we need and prepare for the future.

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Thank you for completing the AWARE Simcoe candidate questionnaire.