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2022 Municipal Election Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name:

Municipality

Date:

Ellen Timms

Wasaga Beach

September 12, 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

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 Yes I feel that

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 Yes

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

ANSWER I support the expansion of the Greenbelt into the county because of the economic impact and jobs that are currently being supported. In addition, the greenbelt has been proven to offer a natural ecosystem that has a positive impact on fighting climate change.

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

ANSWER I will advocate for a Climate Change Advisory Committee to be appointed by Wasaga Beach Town Council and the creation of a Climate Change Master Plan.

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 believe that responsible land use must ensure that we have the resources necessary to continue to provide food for Ontarians. I will advocate that productive farmland is protected from urbanization.

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 I was unaware of this issue but have to agree that if suitable zoned industrial land is available for the facility, it belongs there.

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

ANSWER On a local level

1. Developing Wasaga Beach's beachfront to reinvigorate our tourism industry, strengthen our economic base, and create employment.

2. I will advocate for development density that protects our natural resources and improves the liveability of Wasaga Beach.

3. I am committed to community-based economic development initiatives and working to maintain a commercially attractive environment to attract a growing workforce to Wasaga Beach.

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Thank you for completing the AWARE Simcoe candidate questionnaire.