



2022 Municipal Election Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name:

Municipality

Date:

Judith Cox

Severn Township.

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 totally agree with you and have always supported these objectives throughout my political career.

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 do. I read all my reports from staff on these issues and we use the SSEA for consultation and reports. I have always advocated and fought for protecting water, wetlands and recharge areas in housing developments and aggregate extractions in Severn and 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?

ANSWER

Yes, I will!

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

ANSWER

I can support the expansion as it will protect our lands for future generations and ensure that we that our aquifers, forests and wetlands are off limits to unnecessary sprawl.

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

We need to introduce new projects to progress towards carbon neutrality, such as efficient heating and cooling systems and reducing energy consumption. We are implementing land use planning that creates compact and energy efficient communities. Promoting carpooling, riding bikes, electric bikes and scooters. Plan for new infrastructure as we are seeing more frequent and intense storms, increasing temperatures and fluctuating water levels. Phase in energy efficient vehicles in our fleet.

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 support preserving farmland and water resources through advocating for provincial land use policies. Land capable of supporting agricultural activity ensures a safe and sustainable supply of food, fuel for now and for the future in Ontario. Our Official Plan has that protection in it.

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.

We need a waste handling facility in Simcoe County. This facility will provide a place to process our organics locally and manage the transfer of garbage and recycling. It shows the commitment to diversion and reducing waste. It also allows the County to manage our waste, control transfer and processing costs.

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

ANSWER

1. Protecting our farmlands, wetlands and watersheds from urban sprawl

2. Preparing and planning for Climate Change

3. Fiscal Responsibility – There is only one taxpayer

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Thank you for completing the AWARE Simcoe candidate questionnaire.