



2022 Municipal Election Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name:

Municipality

Date:

KATHY JEFFERY

COLLINGWOOD (TOWN)

AUGUST 29TH/22

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 agree that these are extremely important priorities.

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. The Town of Collingwood is supported by the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority who participate as reviewers for all development proposals. I continue to support the NVCA fees for other services to our municipality within our budget to ensure the protection of our natural heritage and wetlands. We have no aggregate extraction or other such intrusive activities in our municipality.

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

Advocacy by like-minded communities (and, assuming here, that would include the County of Simcoe) would seem to be the most effective route. I do not have sufficient background facts to make an informed comment. The Town has two County representatives and an alternate whom I would rely on in regard to this matter. Requests can also be made by impacted municipalities for support from the Association of the Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) on matters of Provincial Policy that impact all Ontario municipalities.

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

ANSWER

I would think that a collaborative, open and transparent expansion of the Greenbelt into Simcoe County would be a positive for protecting the natural heritage. It is necessary for the Provincial Government to consult with the public allowing appropriate response times on such significant policies.

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

ANSWER

I supported a Town of Collingwood adopted resolution of a Climate Change Emergency and supported the Town working on reducing its GHGs ((on a program with the Federation of Canadian (FCM) Municipalities)). I believe that we can be more proactive and have a bigger impact on reducing GHGs and thus our impact on climate change through updated and revised procurement by-laws. As a National Director of FCM I am able to bring back to our municipality the learnings and opportunities to make a significant difference.

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

Food security is an important matter. The Town of Collingwood has very little by way of rural/agricultural land within its boundaries. Through our new Official Plan Policy process there is an opportunity to consider where intensification can occur to protect green space and the little rural/agricultural lands that we do have.

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 do not have sufficient background facts to make an informed comment. The Town has two County representatives and an alternate whom I would rely on in regard to this matter.

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

ANSWER

- 1. Affordable Housing
- 2. Climate Change adaptation
- 3. Economic Recovery

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Thank you for completing the AWARE Simcoe candidate questionnaire.