



2022 Municipal Election Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name:

Municipality

Date:

Matt Lund

City of Orillia

September 07, 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, I agree that all natural resources including water resources and farmland preservations do require government protections. If elected, I would fight avidly against Doug Ford’s provincial sprawl plan and do so in as clear and concise way as possible.

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 feel that need to protect water, wetlands and recharge zones. I currently live on the worlds most pristine water source and it needs to be protected. If elected to counsel, I will use my seat to gain local support within the community, while at the same time, I would advocate for the municipality to hire litigation council to challenge any judgments made by the provincial government that threaten our local water sources.

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 would work to protect the drinking water that my children drink every day.

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

ANSWER

I oppose all expansions, especially when so many better alternatives exist. We have the ability to densify in a way that lowers the cost of living while at the same time protecting our green spaces. It is much more cost effective from a government spending point of view and it is a better future for all.

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

ANSWER

Combating climate change is a large-scale issue. First, I would work to revise the municipal plan to get Orillia to net zero by 2030 rather than 2050. I would work to create bike paths and sources for clean public transit. I would invest in clean energy projects, and I would put heavy penalties and restrictions against anything that isn't green.

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

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 feel the best place for a waste handling facility in Simcoe County would be at Jill Dunlops office. Nothing is a bigger waste than watching how useless she is at representing the collective will of the majority of residents that she is claimed to represent.

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

ANSWER

If elected my top 3 priorities in order are:

1. Affordable, obtainable and continued low income housing
2. Participatory democracy
3. Environmental sustainability

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Thank you for completing the AWARE Simcoe candidate questionnaire.