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2022 Municipal Election Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name:

Municipality

Date:

Matthew Vaters

Midland

September 5th/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

Of course. Providing transparency is huge when educating people to making informed decisions. We need to protect water resources and our natural heritage in order to protect our future.

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 will collaboratively in order to achieve what is best for our Town. I will bring aware the situation at hand and evaluate the pros and cons of the situation and educate people to make informed decisions.

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, if you have something which is an asset and in this case the purest water, you want to do whatever it takes to protect that asset.

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

ANSWER

I think it is important for Simcoe County to support the greenbelt. The Greenbelt is help to direct which areas of development are most needed where there is services like hospitals, schools, etc. Greenbelts also

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

ANSWER

I would become more knowledgeable on how to do this. It would then be about taking action and educating people on how to do so. I would then work collaboratively to find the resources to do so.

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

Working collaboratively to create solutions to doing so.

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 don't have all the pertinent information on this, what research was done, why this location, etc. I am unable to choose a side at this time until I do further research

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

ANSWER

1. Work Collaboratively

2. Be transparent

3. Advocate

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Thank you for completing the AWARE Simcoe candidate questionnaire.