



[www.aware-simcoe.ca](http://www.aware-simcoe.ca)

## 2022 Municipal Election Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name:

Municipality

Date:

Norm Costello.....

Barrie

September 27,2022

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?

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?

Yes I do. By voting against any encroachment on these lands.

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?

Absolutely!

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

Not sure I understand this question?

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

Climate change is a very delicate topic. I feel that there are many people and groups who feel that we have to do everything now and at all costs. This is not necessarily true. I think as a municipality we should be looking after our water ways and adjusting how we affect our environment. In other words lets deal with the things we can have an impact on.

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 believe we need to build up rather than out. We need to look at Multi Use Zoning as an option for housing including affordable housing.

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?

I don't see the need to use agricultural lands to build an industrial facility.

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

ANSWER

1. Improve our cities snow removal by removing the windrow that is left behind every snow plow.

2. Transportation. We need to look at our cities' transportation issue where as we have large buses driving around our streets with very few people utilising them.

3. We need to address our homeless problem along with the safe injection sites

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Thank you for completing the AWARE Simcoe candidate questionnaire.