



2022 Municipal Election Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name:

Municipality

Date:

Sharon Doran (she/her)

Barrie (Ward 6)

September 1, 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

I agree that these issues vital. Barrie and surrounding areas are under extreme pressure to grow quickly over the coming decades, but we must do so in a sustainable fashion that preserves as much farmland, water, and natural heritage for future generations 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

I agree that there is a need to protect water, wetlands and recharge areas. I will work with my fellow Councillors, city staff, and local experts to determine the best path forward for each issue, as it comes forward.

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

I do share the concern over gravel extraction's impact to the water beneath French's Hill, however it is outside the boundaries of the City of Barrie and our Council would have little say in the matter.

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

ANSWER

I support an expansion of the Greenbelt into Simcoe County to put focus on growth via intensification rather than sprawl, but do recognize that the concept has limited value when cities leapfrog over, or run infrastructure right through, 'protected' areas.

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

ANSWER

I plan to work with my fellow Councillors, city staff, and local experts to determine the best path forward to combat climate change on a municipal level. Personally, I make choices every day to keep my environmental impact as small as possible. Simple things like: avoiding single-use plastics, sorting waste correctly, growing my own vegetables organically, using a rain barrel to water my garden, planning errands so that one trip is required rather than several, drying most of my clothes on a rack rather than in the dryer. All of these small actions add up.

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

Barrie has been identified by the province as a high-growth area. Developments must be sustainable and affordable via higher intensification rather than sprawling subdivisions that take over precious farmland and greenspace.

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

Selecting a waste handling facility location is fraught with many challenges and impossible to satisfy everyone.

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

ANSWER

1. Sustainable Development

2. Infrastructure

3. Affordable Housing

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Thank you for completing the AWARE Simcoe candidate questionnaire.