



BUILDING BRIDGES TO OUR FUTURE

Support John White for Councillor Town of The Blue Mountains

Visit www.John4Blue.ca

I discovered The Town of the Blue Mountains in 1980 as a weekender and now it is HOME. I am passionate about the area and my family's future here.

I joined Citizens Forum researching, writing articles and making presentations to Council and The Town County Steering Committee. Now I am asking for your vote so I can use this, my business career experience and my Graduate Degree in Public Administration Local Government.

Legacy Council Hangover. Internal strife has led to ineffective direction to staff. My first priority - Work Cooperatively with the New Council, foster community confidence, provide clear direction and leadership to town staff, present a united voice to Grey County and a cohesive message to new business and development opportunities.

Rapid Growth has created challenges and the development pressures equivalent to a community of 10x our size. We have to dramatically step up our ability and actions to service this reality. We need action - including shovel in ground projects underway NOW.

Transportation – OPPOSED to Hwy 26 becoming a 5 Lane Highway. We need a Hwy 26 corridor which is safer for all users with bypasses moving more traffic through other corridors. The Southern Georgian Bay area requires a comprehensive transportation plan, not another band aid. Property expropriation along Hwy 26 using \$500 million plus tax dollars is NUTS and does not solve the issue.

SMART Balanced - Sustainable Economic Development. Ensure housing opportunities for all income levels and age groups. Citizens should be able to afford to live in the community in which they work and today there are 2000+ jobs vacant. We need community programs and services to encourage young people to live, work and raise their families here and to facilitate the transitional housing needs of an aging population.

Authorized by the Campaign to elect John White

Infrastructure Renewal and Expansion – For the third year our depreciation expense will exceed completed projects. This means that financially, senior governments see us in decline and increasingly ineligible for funding from these governments. Taking until 2031 to address our existing infrastructure needs is LUDICROUS. With \$200+ Million in Assets & Reserves and a huge project list we need accelerated project approvals, management and completion targets.

Water Services – Our Water is expensive and 37% of it is not metered for. We have no idea where it goes missing and the % loss is increasing. Before adding staff and facilities FIND & PLUG THE LEAKS. I propose in two years we identify at least 80% of the leaks. Immediately fix those easily accessed and have a plan to fix the balance and target under 6% leakage.

Sewer Systems – Unfortunately similar to our water situation. The current 7 year plan to identify sewage leaks and then develop a plan to fix them is too long. We need to get 80% + of the leak identification done in one year, immediately repair what is easily accessible and plan to fix the rest and target a leak free system.

Dump Leachate – While the pipeline funding is now gone the problem persists. Due to past omissions we do not know if the existing facility can treat the actual leachate composition. Consider other options, one being a public / private partnership on a new treatment facility as a value add attraction to new business & employment opportunities.

Storm and Melt Water Management and overland flooding – meaning houses filling with water, has gotten worse each year. There is not a comprehensive Town Drainage Map meaning no accurate planning. We need co-operation between all levels of government to correct this deficiency and provide the necessary information to fix the problem. No one should have to watch their house fill with flood waters.

Grey County Relationship – the current relationship is broken.

1st Step – learn the rules as laid out in the Grey County act. The Voters list, which the Town exclusively controls, determines our county proportionate weighed vote percentage and the voters list is understated, maybe by 50%. Easier to get more done with 20% of the vote than our 11% today.

2nd Step – clearly define the County Services and funding levels required and effectively work towards achieving them. Easier if representatives actually attend meetings and present a united town position.

3rd Step – determine what is required if we leave Grey County and how we would manage it. Recent municipal changes in Toronto show this government will act. We are an organ of the Provincial Government and the challenges of the surrounding municipalities and our reserves and growing assessment base make us an attractive target for amalgamation.

There is more to talk about – some hints

- I will strive to end the era of over 100 closed council meetings.
- Reverse ever increasing legal bills.
- Return transparency to public accounts.
- Overhaul the use of consultants and call on community resources to enhance our own staff resources to get the jobs done and develop the expertise for the next challenge.
- Support Zero Base Budgeting for revenues and expenses, everything is transparent, understood, analysed and monitored. I will not accept a “that’s the way it has always been” answer.
- Stop making the same mistakes, implement a Quality Management and Service Delivery program reinforced by a proven Correction Action and Continuous Improvement Process.
- Empower Town Staff to demonstrate their capabilities, competency and professionalism each day.
- Tourism Action Plan - clearly defined and funded implementation steps.
- Comprehensive and Cooperative Cycling Program – upgrading and adding infrastructure.
- Rural Life Initiatives and Agricultural Support Programs.
- 10th Line Renewal for Thornbury & Clarksburg – local agricultural traffic and cycling route.
- Preserving Public Water Access and Water Quality along Georgian Bay and the Beaver River.
- Wetlands Preservation.
- Improve By-law enforcement – treat everyone fairly and only have by-laws we are going to enforce.
- Library Services – keep them current & progressive. a cornerstone of our community's future.
- Formal and Registered system of town opinions on which citizens and business undertake action.
- Completion of our new Town Park of Remembrance for those who make the ultimate sacrifice.



There is lots to talk about and do.

Help me to strengthen our Town by

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Call, meet with me, e-mail me your questions, host an event and join me at upcoming public meetings. I look forward to hearing from you:

289-230-5345 John@John4Blue.ca www.John4Blue.ca