



September 3, 2018

Dear Candidate:

Save our Shorelines (SOS) Collingwood is a recently formed community-based advocacy organization focused on the preservation of Collingwood's sensitive and protected shoreline habitats. While the organization's early focus has been the recent development proposal for the Living Waters/Bear Estate property, our mission is more broadly focused on championing the protection of all sensitive shoreline and protected wetland areas in the Collingwood area.

In that regard, SOS Collingwood has already secured the signatures of 850+ Collingwood residents on a petition promoting the protection of sensitive wetland areas, and more than 6,500 supporters on our similarly structured Change.org on-line petition. We have also established an active presence on social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram through which we have been amazed by the level of interest and passion Collingwood residents have for this cause.

More information on SOS Collingwood can be found on our website or Facebook pages which can be found at the following links:

[www.SOSCollingwood.ca](http://www.SOSCollingwood.ca)  
@SOSCollingwood

In the interest of informing our supporters and followers on where candidates for Town Council stand on the issues of concern to our organization, we are writing to all candidates and asking them to respond to the attached series of questions. We hope you will take the time to respond. All responses will be publicly posted on the SOS Collingwood website and Facebook page for our supporters to review.

Sincerely,

SOS Collingwood.

**Questions for Candidates for Collingwood Town Council  
September 2, 2018**

- 1.) In order of priority how would you rank the top five (5) priorities for the Town of Collingwood over the next 4 years?
- 2.) Much has been said recently about the need for greater “Transparency” in how the Town conducts its affairs. What changes do you think are necessary to improve transparency in how Council, and Town staff, make decisions?
- 3.) What is your position on inter-governmental cooperation between the Town and its neighbouring municipalities (e.g. the Town of Blue Mountains, Clearview and Wasaga Beach) and where and how do you think such cooperation would most benefit Collingwood?
- 4.) Collingwood is under intense development pressure like it has never seen before in its history. What increased complexities and pressures do you think this presents, and how will you ensure the Town’s planning and building departments are equipped to address them? Are there any additional skills and experience you feel are required to manage these pressures?
- 5.) The mounting development pressure in the Town is generating a heightened level of community interest in the Town’s planning and development process and decisions. Do you think the Town has adequate public consultation processes in place to deal with these decisions or do you think changes are required, and if so, what changes?
- 6.) The Town has recently approved a Waterfront Master Plan. What is your perspective on that plan? Do you think it contains the right priorities or are there changes you feel are required? Should its implementation be a priority for the new Council?
- 7.) Both the Waterfront Master Plan and the Town’s Official Plan state that the protection of Collingwood’s sensitive wetlands and shoreline areas are a top priority. How would you rate Collingwood’s performance in protecting these areas to date? Do you think Collingwood currently has appropriate processes and controls in place to protect these areas (especially from development), or do you think improvements are required, and if so, what improvements?
- 8.) What role do you see Collingwood’s protected wetland and shoreline areas playing in your vision of the Town’s social, cultural and economic future?
- 9.) SOS Collingwood has raised specific concerns regarding the recent development proposal for the Living Waters/Bear Estate property. While the developer has asked the Town of defer consideration of the application until 2019, a decision on the matter will likely come before Council early in its next term. What are your views on that proposal and what level of public consultation and input do you feel needs to occur?