



Springwater Township – Candidate Questionnaire 2014

We hope that, as a candidate for Springwater Council, you will take the time to complete the following survey. Please return no later than **Monday, September 22nd at 4 pm**. Your responses will help us determine who to recommend to our many supporters, both in Midhurst and the Township at large, for each contested seat on Council. Answers will be rated according to our organizational values. The names of our chosen candidates, together with comments from the MRA board, will be published in the Springwater News. All completed questionnaires will appear on our website after the deadline has passed. Those not received by the deadline will be listed as “no response”. Thank you in advance for your time and your participation.

Platform

What do you believe should be the **top 5 priorities** for Council? (*in order of priority*)

1. Immediate moratorium on massive, high density development until we have full water budget for ground water resources and Minesing Wetlands get re-evaluation under 2005 Provincial standards
2. Preserve all class 1, 2 and 3 farmlands
3. Restore open, accountable and transparent local government
4. Budget which demonstrates living within our means
5. Provincial Ombudsman review evaluation of Minesing Wetlands

What steps do you intend to take or recommend to council in order to achieve **NUMBER 1**?

- a) Lobby province and meet with Premier
- b) MNR/university partnership to do 2005 level evaluation of Minesing Wetlands

Transparency and Accountability

	YES	NO
1. Are you in favour of appointing the Ontario Ombudsman to oversee Springwater Council?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Do you agree with the following improvements to council meetings?		
a) More frequent council meetings? IF NEEDED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Question Periods that are not limited to the agenda?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Later start times to improve public accessibility?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Publishing agendas one full week in advance?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Mandatory Question Period for Special meetings?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) All questions asked during Question Period to be recorded in full, answered in a timely manner either orally or in writing and placed on the public record	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Do you support requiring elected representatives to keep their constituents regularly informed via email, newspaper articles, town halls and/or social media?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Are you in favour of NVCA board representatives providing monthly reports to	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

council on decisions and actions of the NVCA board, with such reports to be placed on the public record?		
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Growth & Development

	YES	NO
1. If elected, with regard to the Midhurst Secondary Plan, will you support:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a) Stopping it in its current form?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Lobbying the provincial government to rescind the special rule?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Lobbying the provincial government to help stop the MSP?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Creating a new plan that puts farmland and source water protection first?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Helping to establish a moratorium on the MSP until all financial and environmental studies have been completed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. If elected, will you support the following measures to manage development:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. Extra levies or charges to make growth pay for growth?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Establishing a Planning Committee to oversee and guide the work of the Planning and Public Works departments?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Ensuring future development prioritizes farmland preservation and source water protection?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Creating master plans for heritage areas, areas of archeological significance and key agricultural hubs?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Environmental Responsibility & Agriculture

	YES	NO
1. Do you think Springwater is doing enough to protect and enhance its natural environment? Comments: Minesing Wetlands seems to be treated as an afterthought! No evidence of municipally led protection initiatives.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Do you support making Springwater Township a “Food and Water First” township?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Are you satisfied that Springwater is doing enough to preserve its farmland from development? Comments: At every agriculture event, conference and round table I attend, the evidence is clear – we are becoming a “pave it over” township.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Leadership and Governance

	YES	NO
1. Do you support independent peer reviews, paid for by Springwater, of all reports critical to strategic planning? Comments:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Are you in favour of establishing a Finance Committee comprised of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and/or Councillors to oversee and guide the work of senior staff?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Are you in favour of establishing a Planning Committee comprised of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and/or Councillors to oversee and guide the work of the Planning and Public Works departments?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Are you in favour of establishing a lobby registry?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Does your campaign accept union or corporate donations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Additional Comments:

For community threatening decisions like library closures and centralizing of services elsewhere, hold a referendum or vote in community.

Name: Connie Spek, Ward 3 Candidate