



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. Continue to work hard on the MSP to ensure scrutiny on the threats such environmental, traffic, and noise, including future financial impacts on Springwater’s residents
2. Continue to provide leadership in the implementation of Performance Measurements and Management of the Township’s operation and finances.
- 3 Continue to work with and lobby the Ministry of Education and SCSB to ensure Elmvale High School remains open and the addition project is completed.
4. Continue to represent Springwater on County Council by taking a Leadership role on the committees to provide financial and operational oversight
5. Continue to build and strengthen existing relationships Springwater business

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

I would assertively enforce the 150 conditions set up at the OMB for the subdivision agreements and stand firm on any threats through the Environmental Assessment process.

Transparency and Accountability

	YES	NO
1. Are you in favour of appointing the Ontario Ombudsman to oversee Springwater Council? (We presently have a private professional ombudsman who many Municipalities use and I am satisfied with that firm.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Do you agree with the following improvements to council meetings?		
a) More frequent council meetings? (presently if more meetings are required to fulfill the requirements of the Council they will be called , I am not in favour of having a more meeting for the sake of more meetings)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Question Periods that are not limited to the agenda? (we do allow questions that are not on the agenda however they will not be answered at the meeting as they are not on the agenda and therefore general public were not aware of that subject is being discussed at that)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Council meeting.		
c) Later start times to improve public accessibility? (I am ok with later start times)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Publishing agendas one full week in advance? (this can be done but I caution that some issues that come up and are of some urgency may be required to wait until the next agenda)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Mandatory Question Period for Special meetings?	<input 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 (This occurs now)	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. (all council business is recorded and minutes are provided, if there is a special issue I have would prefer special communications and town hall meetings)		
5. Are you in favour of NVCA board representatives providing monthly reports to council on decisions and actions of the NVCA board, with such reports to be placed on the public record? (I do get the minutes of the meeting and if I have concerns take it up with our representative, not sure what an additional report would do)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Lobbying the provincial government to help stop the MSP?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Creating a new plan that puts farmland and source water protection first?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Helping to establish a moratorium on the MSP until all financial and environmental studies have been completed? (I honestly believe that trying to stop the Partial MSP planning approval at this time is unlawful and risks liability to the Township and ratepayers. Council needs to be firm with the environmental and subdivision conditions to ensure if it goes any further, threats are addressed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. If elected, will you support the following measures to manage development: (I am open to any approach or organizational changes that would benefit the Township)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. Extra levies or charges to make growth pay for growth?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Establishing a Planning Committee to oversee and guide the work of the Planning and Public Works departments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Ensuring future development prioritizes farmland preservation and source water protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Creating master plans for heritage areas, areas of archeological significance and key agricultural hubs?	<input 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: (I fully support the protection of our natural environment, and would entertain any improvements)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Do you support making Springwater Township a “Food and Water First” township? (I am not sure what this means or how it is applied)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Are you satisfied that Springwater is doing enough to preserve its farmland from development? Comments: The Provincial regulations and Township planning documents have strict policies for the preservation of farmland as it applies to new settlement areas and development proposals.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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: (not sure if this a good use of funds, why do you elect a council. If an independent review is necessary I would hope that the Council of the day would order it.	<input 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? (We do have a Finance Committee presently and all staff are Managed by the CAO.)	<input 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? (We Presently have a Planning Committee made up of all of Council, Public Works has a management structure and is all governed by Performance Measurement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Are you in favour of establishing a lobby registry? (I believe this is not necessary at this level of government , we are all very accessible to all ratepayers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Does your campaign accept union or corporate donations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	X <input type="checkbox"/>

Additional Comments:

I realize that this questionnaire is designed to make any candidate that does not support the MRA action items, look poorly and be assigned a low rating. I have and will always make the decisions in the best interests of all of Springwater's ratepayers

Name: Dan McLean