

It's time to vote in the Municipal Election.

You should have received your mail-in ballot already. And if you plan to vote by Mail, then you should do it now, and make sure it is in the mail before this Saturday, October 18th to ensure your vote is counted.

Be aware that you are not required to vote for every position that is up for election.

So if you only want to vote for one or two councillors you know and trust, or have no preference for who holds a position, such as Reeve, then it is OK to only select your choices and leave the others blank.

Just don't make the mistake of voting for more candidates than are allowed in each category, and remember to sign the declaration form that came with the mail ballot.

The SLCA would like to thank all the candidates that made an effort to reach out to us, or spent time canvassing the area, in an effort to reach out to our members and ask for their vote.

If you need additional information about the candidates, the SLCA's comments and recommendations are below.

CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

The SLCA spent a significant amount of time with any candidate that requested our endorsement, and the support of our members. The following high-level topics were discussed:

TAXES: Taxes are a growing problem. Any new spending must recognize it has a larger financial impact on lakefront residents who pay a larger percentage of the tax bill. New spending should be balanced against the benefits to the ratepayer, and should always seek grants, cost sharing, or reductions from elsewhere.

COMMUNITY: Building a strong community is important, but the priorities of the seasonal lakefront ratepayer are very different from the full time residential townspeople. New thinking is required to achieve an all-inclusive future.

SUSTAINABILITY: The SLCA community is situated between Limerick Township and Tudor Cashel Township. As a result, we see both townships struggle with same issues relating to roads, garbage/recycling, police/emergency and conservation. Rarely do these townships work together towards solutions. Shared services need to be part of the conversation.

GROWTH: Economic development is important. The seasonal cash flow is obvious, and there is an opportunity to help connect this local economy to local products and services. The townships need to develop programs to support this.

ACTION: Our elected officials are expected to take an active interest in issues that concern our members, and we expect open communication, and forward movement.

CANDIDATE PROFILES

At the end of this document, the SLCA has attached the profile sheet of each candidate that was interviewed, and includes;

Limerick New Entrants for Councillor:

Sue Empson

John Taylor

Mike Douglas-Hecker

Limerick Existing Councillor for re-elect:

Andra Kauffeldt

Bonnie Weise

Regrettably, many candidates did not request the support of the SLCA, and were omitted from our interviews.

SLCA RECOMMENDATIONS

Limerick Township:

Reeve:

Sharon Carson

Councillor:

Sue Empson

John Taylor

Mike Douglas-Hecker

Andra Kaufeldt

Comments:

The SLCA endorsements for Limerick township office represents a mix of existing, proven leadership, as well as new entrants that come equipped with business experience, some political exposure and solid roots in the community.

Our SLCA municipal affairs representative, Ken DeBoo, will also attend the all-candidates meeting in Limerick on October 20th to re-enforce our member's voice in the community.

SLCA RECOMMENDATIONS

Tudor/Cashel Township:

Reeve:

None

Councillor:

Duane Burkitt

Noreen Reilly

Comments:

It is regrettable that Tudor/Cashel was very inactive throughout the election process, with the primary source of campaigning being the placement of election signs along our roads.

The SLCA endorsement is therefore based on the need to send a message requesting change.

Duane Burkitt is a previous councillor of Tudor/Cashel, who during his term helped advance topics of interest to SLCA members, such as Road Maintenance.

Noreen Reilly made an effort to visit several of our members to make an introduction and request their votes.

A vote for **ONLY** these two candidates may help them win their seat on council, but it might also send a message to the other candidates who could have had their name on our ballots.

Candidate: Sue Empson

Position: Councillor

I am Sue Empson, a mother and grandmother that has been vacationing in this community for over two decades. This year I purchased a cottage on Steenburg Lake. As a retired Dairy Agricultural Specialist and Instructor at Kemptville College and Supervisor of Security at CFB Trenton, I am passionate about making this township safe, viable and a desirable place to live and work. I invite an Open Door Policy and transparency. I believe the community needs to explore possible grant programs, work with non-profit organizations and maintain the benefits, services and quality of the Township as a whole. Together all residents will benefit and make the Township of Limerick a wonderful place to promote and implement safe, clean water practices and to keep our lakes and land in pristine condition for future generations. I hope I can count on your support this October so we can get started to continue and shape a unified community in this great Township of Limerick. Thanks, Sue Empson (613) 921-1723

Candidate: John Taylor

Position: Councillor

John Taylor

Over 100 years ago, Percy Taylor came to the Township of Limerick and built his dream log cabin in the woods, marking the beginning of the Taylor family's love affair with the rugged beauty of the Township of Limerick.

Percy's grandson, John Taylor, is a third generation "Limerick Lake-ian" and is campaigning to be your Councillor in the Township of Limerick.

How John Taylor can help you

For more than 30 years, John ran a successful family business and managed a division of a mid-size company. He also volunteered his time for several years as a director of the Canadian Cosmetic Association. Each of these challenging roles allowed John to excel as a leader and provided him with extensive project management, marketing and finance experience – experience that can contribute greatly to everyone's continued enjoyment of this amazing part of Ontario.

Why you should vote for John Taylor

John will (provide):

L ook after your tax dollars.

I ntegrity and honesty above all else.

S upport to everyone in the community.

T imely decision making.

E nvironmental consideration as an integral part of his decision making.

N o hidden agendas, he just wants what is best for the Township of Limerick.

John Taylor will LISTEN to you ... because, like you, he wants what's best for the Township of Limerick!

Elect John Taylor for Councillor

John's love of and respect for the Township of Limerick is generations strong. He is committed to this community and he will work hard to make the Township of Limerick an even better place to live, work and vacation.

Candidate: Mike Douglas-Hecker

Position: Councillor

Community Issues at Large

Winter maintenance less used roads? If a road is deemed a seasonal road then why publicly maintain it?

Re-opening the dump as a dump? Is it a cost effective action, and even if so, is it something we want to do? What can be done to lower our waste contributions, i.e. can seasonal residents be persuaded to “boomerang” their recyclables through their home programs, and what else can we do? Does it make sense for the Township to investigate an incinerator station like that near Darlington, which could offset dump cost?

Replacement of the Community Center: How is the facility being used now, and if the community feels a replacement is needed, how can it be optimized through multi-purpose use to offset cost of building a new one, short term and long term?

Replacement of the municipal offices? Is it really needed for the size of the community?

A public beach for Limerick Lake? Where would it be, and for what purpose?

A public boat launch for Steenburg Lake? What will serve both the seasonal and permanent residents the best?

Library funding? Is it best for Limerick to share a Library with Wollaston or is there a better solution given declining library use nationwide?

Platform

To be a fiscally responsible member of Limerick Township Council.

It is my intention, should I be elected, to be an active participant at Council meetings.

To ensure that any and all developments pay their anticipated infrastructure costs to meet the needs of the future residents of that community. That will be accomplished by off-setting any cost to the existing taxpayers as it relates to that development. i.e., if a project like Limerick Estates is deemed to require X% of road use, then that project must fund X% of road maintenance and improvement costs

To be open and solicit the needs and goals of the community and work toward fulfilling them

To seek community support to grow and develop a sustainable business community, to help offset the tax load from the residential community.

Those are the candidates your LWRA Board of Directors has chosen to support. They, like us, are cottagers on the Limerick Waterways. They will make sure our voices are heard on Council, and considered in their deliberations. For the position of Councillor, you have four choices to make. I have also asked the other candidates in this election to send us a statement for your consideration. As of the time of publishing, here is what we had received.

Candidate: Bonnie Weise

Position: Councillor

For the past four years, I have been a member of Council for the Township of Limerick. I am seeking re-election on October 27, 2014.

During my tenure:

I have been actively involved and have attended all Council meetings. I am the alternate to the Reeve and conducted all duties and responsibilities when required.

I sit on the following "Committees of Council": Minor Variance, Roads, Emergency Management Control Group (Public Information Officer).

Other committees I sat on; Economic Development, Recruit Doctors to North Hastings and the South Steenburg Lake Road Sub-Committee.

I have attended a workshop on the *DWSP (Drinking Water Surveillance Program) and more in-depth training for the Public Information Officer's role and a two-day training for municipal councillors.

I was involved in organizing and planning the 125th Anniversary Celebration of Limerick Township, which led to the creation of a historical map that depicts the names and locations of the early settlers. Next was the production of a local history book. This was made possible with the assistance of the New Horizons for Seniors Program grant and with a lot of involvement from the local residents and former residents. A formal launch is being planned later this year for both the book and the historical map.

In 2013, I successfully applied for a two-year grant to the Ontario Community Sport and Recreation Fund. The purpose of the Grant is to assist and encourage all ages to keep physically active. Some of the programs offered to residents of Limerick, Tudor Cashel and Wollaston Townships are; McGeachie Conservation Guided Tours, Canoeing and Swimming Lessons, Xerdance and the Youth Volunteer Firefighter Program. The goal is to get our residents moving, resulting in healthier communities.

For the next four years, I believe Council needs to continue to:

Listen to our residents and consider their needs, while ever mindful of maintaining current infrastructure.

Encourage economic development while minimizing the environmental impact as we move forward.

Continue practicing "due diligence" when it comes to fiscal responsibility and preventing liability issues.

Don't Forget to Vote on Monday, October 27, 2014!

613-337-8939

<mailto:bonnie.weise@gmail>

Candidate: Andra Kauffeldt

Position: Councillor

For the past four years, I have had the honour and the privilege to represent the ratepayers of Limerick Township in the capacity of Councillor on municipal council. I have been a very active and vocal member of council throughout my term and have served as the Township Representative on a number of committees including: Policing Advisory Committee Recreation Committee Roads Committee Library Board Alternate Emergency Measures Response Additionally, I have participated on an 'as needed' basis on several other committees from time to time to support my fellow council members when they could not attend a meeting or program launch. I continue to be very visible and active in the community and regularly attend community events as a participant and as a volunteer. The next four years will bring many challenges to our small municipality. Rising costs for mandated services (such as police costs) and mandatory requirements to conform to legislative policy changes (such as Accessibility Regulations among others) will have expensive price tags. These fiscal challenges will require the new council to find new and innovative ways to generate revenue while maximizing the use of every tax dollar collected from our ratepayers. Waste Management, township infrastructure (roads, bridges, equipment and buildings) as well as continued due diligence with the Limerick Lake Estates Subdivision, to ensure the protection of the current residents of the lake, the future residents of the subdivision and the health of Limerick Lake are three of the key priorities for the next council to address over its four year term.

On October 27, 2014, I ask for your support as you choose your Council representatives for the next four years. I commit to continue to be a strong advocate and voice for our municipality to ensure that all of our permanent and seasonal residents are proud of Limerick Township and able to continue to work, live and play here for many years to come.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns that you would like me to know about, I would be pleased to hear from you. You can email me at andra.kauffeldt@live.ca or contact me by phone at 613-337-5763. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Andra Kauffeldt