

Trent Lakes

Candidate Responses to Questions From CEWF

Updated September 15th, 2018

Responses herewith from Janet Clarkson, Peter Raymond, Adri Eastman, Ron Windover, Ed Dewhurst, Kim Letto, Carol Armstrong, Don Lacombe, Greg Jackson, Terry Lambshead

Janet Clarkson, Mayor

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I believe in conservation of all water. I have been aware of this problem for many years and will certainly work with your association to advance our involvement. One of the problems as I see it, is the lack of quick responses to extreme weather where valuable water could be saved if the ability to adjust dams was much quicker. In my youth locals could do that. I know that is not possible now but some balance should be struck to ensure that timely response is possible. The co-operation between the Trent canal and the feeder lakes needs to be better communicated to all concerned. I pushed the eastern wardens caucus to adopt the Trent Canal as one of their initiatives when I was at county council. This needs to be

expanded to encompass the area as a whole instead of two separate entities. Municipalities have only the power to try to influence decision makers and we need to liaison much better with your coalition. And others.

Peter Raymond, Mayor

1. Do you agree that municipalities have a role to play in working to improve water management in the Haliburton Sector of the Trent River watershed? If so, are you personally committed to continued municipal support for the Upper Trent Water Management Partnership?

Yes, Absolutely

2. What would you do to strengthen the flood control and mitigation provisions of your municipality's Official Plan? For example, would you support initiatives to provide better flood plain mapping and flood mitigation planning as the basis for decision-making?

I strongly support instituting Flood Control & Mitigation measures through our Strategic Planning process and as appropriate in the Municipality's Official Plan and Emergency Management Plans. I also endorse and support improved flood plain mapping and flood mitigation planning. These measures are key in adaptation to addressing Climate Change.

3. Do you agree that municipal governments should work with local lake associations, the Trent Severn Waterway (TSW) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) to further improve water

management operations on reservoir and flow-through lakes and the connecting rivers? For example, are you in favour of: a. urging water conservation to support recreational use of the reservoir lakes; and b. the acquisition of lake-specific data with regard to the location and depth of trout spawning beds to improve and protect fish habitat?

Yes, absolutely for 3a & 3b. additional comments: I advocated support for the CEWF in the establishment of UTWMP and gained municipal support. I have been an active participant of the working group partnership. CEWF have a wealth of expertise and knowledge and have demonstrated an excellent working relationship with Parks Canada, TSW management team and have been able to share information with UTWMP team. All UTWMP member municipalities have been very supportive of UTWMP. It is my sincere hope that all new councils continue to support & endorse UTWMP for the Haliburton Sector of the Trent River watershed.

Adri Eastman, Deputy Mayor

1. Do you agree that municipalities have a role to play in working to improve water management in the Haliburton Sector of the Trent River watershed? If so, are you personally committed to continued municipal support for the Upper Trent Water Management Partnership?

Yes, of course I think the Municipality must be responsible and realize we play an important role in understanding and educating others with the critical issues of water management. I am certainly committed to supporting a partnership with the UTWMP.

2. What would you do to strengthen the flood control and mitigation provisions of your municipality's Official Plan? For example, would you support initiatives to provide better flood plain mapping and flood mitigation planning as the basis for decision-making?

We need to ensure we are better prepared and budget accordingly. Trent Lakes Official Plan is in the process of joining the County Official Plan. In the current section of our dated Trent Lakes Official Plan, provisions seem to be in place for protecting newer development. However, after attending a couple of different cottager association meetings this summer I was made more aware of the significance of better planning from presentations of Ted Spence, and Peter Sale of the Muskoka Water Shed. I think it is only key to improve on our flood plain mapping with the affects of climate change and global warming.

3. Do you agree that municipal governments should work with local lake associations, the Trent Severn Waterway (TSW) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) to further improve water management operations on reservoir and flow-through lakes and the connecting rivers? For example, are you in favour of: a. urging water

conservation to support recreational use of the reservoir lakes; and b. the acquisition of lake-specific data with regard to the location and depth of trout spawning beds to improve and protect fish habitat?

I am of the opinion all four should work together; supporting and sharing information is paramount as weather patterns shift and global warming is affecting our lakes and rivers. I am encouraged to believe a decision of Council will be in full support of adopting a relationship.

Ron Windover, Deputy Mayor

1. Do you agree that municipalities have a role to play in working to improve water management in the Haliburton Sector of the Trent River watershed? If so, are you personally committed to continued municipal support for the Upper Trent Water Management Partnership?

I completely agree that the Municipalities have a role to play in improving water management in the Trent River Watershed which is why I personally supported the Municipality of Trent Lakes (MTL) becoming a member of the Upper Trent Water Management Partnership (UTWMP). As Deputy Mayor, I am aware that many of our tax paying residents have waterfront properties on the reservoir lakes. With the impact of climate change and the increasing rate of more extreme weather

patterns and events, water management is critical to protecting the safety of our homes and properties, protecting the environment, and ensuring on-going safe recreational water use by our constituents. I applaud the CEWF for their efforts in establishing UTWMP and the importance of having these Municipalities working collaboratively with the Trent Severn Waterway (TSW), Parks Canada and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) with an objective of improved water management planning, strategies and measures.

2. What would you do to strengthen the flood control and mitigation provisions of your municipality's Official Plan? For example, would you support initiatives to provide better flood plain mapping and flood mitigation planning as the basis for decision-making?

With a new CAO coming on board and upcoming work on the MTL Official Plan scheduled, we have a unique opportunity scheduled to leverage the UTWMP to ensure that we evaluate and study the inclusion of flood mitigation planning and flood plain mapping as part of this work. It is very important to me and our Municipality to ensure that those residents on the reservoir lakes are confident that we have undertaken an assessment of all the risks and developed counter measures and plans to

prevent property and environmental damage caused by flooding.

3. Do you agree that municipal governments should work with local lake associations, the Trent Severn Waterway (TSW) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) to further improve water management operations on reservoir and flow-through lakes and the connecting rivers? For example, are you in favour of: a. urging water conservation to support recreational use of the reservoir lakes; and b. the acquisition of lake-specific data with regard to the location and depth of trout spawning beds to improve and protect fish habitat?

I have personally supported and pushed for an increase in communications and interaction with local lake, cottage, road and ratepayer organizations by MTL staff and council. By having better communications from our residents, especially those on the reservoir lakes, we have more information that we can share with the TSW and the MNRF to improve water management in conjunction with the efforts of the CEWF. Better water management is important in two scenarios:

- a) Reduce the risk of flooding on the reservoir lakes which can cause shoreline property and environmental damage,
- b) Reduce the impact of drastic water level changes which can impact recreational use and can also have

a detrimental affect to wildlife and fish habitat such as loon nesting and trout spawning areas.

Ed Dewhurst, Councillor, Harvey Ward

1. Do you agree that municipalities have a role to play in working to improve water management in the Haliburton Sector of the Trent River watershed? If so, are you personally committed to continued municipal support for the Upper Trent Water Management Partnership?

Yes

2. What would you do to strengthen the flood control and mitigation provisions of your municipality's Official Plan? For example, would you support initiatives to provide better flood plain mapping and flood mitigation planning as the basis for decision-making?

I would support the official plan to better mapping and flood mitigation and planning.

3. Do you agree that municipal governments should work with local lake associations, the Trent Severn Waterway (TSW) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) to further improve water management operations on reservoir and flow-through lakes and the connecting rivers? For example, are you in favour of: a. urging water conservation to support recreational use of the reservoir lakes; and b. the acquisition of lake-specific data with regard to the location and depth of trout spawning beds to improve and protect fish habitat?

I do believe in water conservation and as an avid fisherman I believe in protecting fish beds not just trout but all species.

Peter Franzen, Councillor, Harvey Ward

Kim Letto, Councillor, Harvey Ward

1. Do you agree that municipalities have a role to play in working to improve water management in the Haliburton Sector of the Trent River watershed? If so, are you personally committed to continued municipal support for the Upper Trent Water Management Partnership?

I do believe that the municipalities have a role and responsibility to share in the local water management partnership. As a candidate running for Harvey Ward my area of representation is on the southern end of this map but it greatly affects my immediate area as the destination for the affected lakes. I look forward to being an active participant in any area that requires my wards' input and cooperation.

2. What would you do to strengthen the flood control and mitigation provisions of your municipality's Official Plan? For example, would you support initiatives to provide better flood plain mapping and flood mitigation planning as the basis for decision-making?

I believe that current and ongoing flood plan mapping and flood mitigation and environmental studies are relevant and essential given the climate concerns in the current state.

3. Do you agree that municipal governments should work with local lake associations, the Trent Severn Waterway (TSW) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) to further improve water management operations on reservoir and flow-through lakes and the connecting rivers? For example, are you in favour of: a. urging water conservation to support recreational use of the reservoir lakes; and b. the acquisition of lake-specific data with regard to the location and depth of trout spawning beds to improve and protect fish habitat?

I believe that education and communication to property owners and users is essential in water conservation plans to ensure their awareness and engagement. I believe the collection and analysis of area specific water/lake data and statistics is essential to help identify threats and areas of concerns to be proactive in preservation.

Carol Armstrong, Councillor, Galway-Cavendish Ward

1. Do you agree that municipalities have a role to play in working to improve water management in the Haliburton Sector of the Trent River watershed? If so, are you personally committed to continued municipal support for the Upper Trent Water Management Partnership?

First of all, kudos to the CEWF for reaching out to council candidates in the seven municipalities that are state as part of the upper Trent watershed area. CEWF has done important and valuable work in bringing together the Federal, Provincial and County/Municipal government bodies that have responsibility for one or more aspects of this large watershed area. Water conservation and management, especially in this time of accelerated climate change, is critical for economic, environmental and social reasons. It is to CEWF's enormous credit that they have brought together a team of Executives with extensive expertise, commitment and energy. That they operate on an annual budget of less than \$3,000 and have built up a reserve of \$13,000 is a model for all not for profits.

Question 1: I am encouraged that the Municipality of Trent Lakes signed on to the Upper Trent Water Management Partnership in 2016, along with 5 other neighboring Municipalities. The Municipality has had a designated representative assigned to this group, and I will support continued active representation and support. The Municipality has ongoing responsibility for local infrastructure that is impacted by severe weather events (flooding, water levels, etc.) and can only do so

effectively if it works closely with other Municipalities along the Trent Severn waterway.

2. What would you do to strengthen the flood control and mitigation provisions of your municipality's Official Plan? For example, would you support initiatives to provide better flood plain mapping and flood mitigation planning as the basis for decision-making?

Question 2: The Trent Lakes Official Plan was last updated in 2013 and is currently undergoing its 5-year review. The current Official Plan (OP) does state an objective to identify the floodplain areas within the Township and to control development to minimize the risk to life and property in the event of a flood. And, OP appendices show a few flood sensitive areas. All of this is largely, however, related to new developments. Based on the recent major flooding incidents that have occurred in Haliburton, our neighbor to the North, it would seem advisable for Trent Lakes to do more in this area to mitigate against or to be prepared for flooding incidents. Budget permitting, I would support prioritizing additional mapping efforts and mitigation planning.

3. Do you agree that municipal governments should work with local lake associations, the Trent Severn Waterway (TSW) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) to further improve water management operations on reservoir and flow-through lakes and the connecting rivers? For example, are you in favour of: a. urging water

conservation to support recreational use of the reservoir lakes; and b. the acquisition of lake-specific data with regard to the location and depth of trout spawning beds to improve and protect fish habitat?

Question 3: There is no question that Trent Lakes needs to work closely with local Lake Associations, Trent Severn Waterway and MNRF to ensure continued effective water management of Trent Severn lakes and rivers. There are many of these Trent Severn connected lakes and rivers in our Municipality. I have attended several public forums where water levels and fluctuations on these lakes have been called out as a major concern and source of frustration for property owners. The Trent watershed is a large, very complex system of lakes, rivers, canals, locks and dams. Many stakeholder groups are affected and their (sometimes conflicting) needs must be understood, balanced and addressed. Decisions made on water management, future land use and development, and infrastructure will impact (among others) waterfront property owners, tour operators, fish habitats, recreational boaters, water ecosystems, tourists, and water supplies. The Municipality has a role to play in this and should continue to leverage and support existing partnerships.

Don Lacombe, Councillor, Galway-Cavendish Ward

1. Do you agree that municipalities have a role to play in working to improve water management in the Haliburton Sector of the Trent River watershed? If so, are you personally committed to continued municipal support for the Upper Trent Water Management Partnership?

Yes, I would remain committed to continued municipal support for the Upper Trent Management Partnership. However, Council is a group of five and require commitment from the majority to create policy.

2. What would you do to strengthen the flood control and mitigation provisions of your municipality's Official Plan? For example, would you support initiatives to provide better flood plain mapping and flood mitigation planning as the basis for decision-making?

Yes, I think there should be flood control management in our official plan. I have not been involved for a few years so I would have to study our plan to understand what it contains. I do believe flood plain mapping should be required for decision making. It might require Haliburton County to get involved with Conservation Authority.

3. Do you agree that municipal governments should work with local lake associations, the Trent Severn Waterway (TSW) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) to further improve water management operations on reservoir and flow-through lakes and the connecting rivers? For example, are you in favour of: a. urging water conservation to support recreational use of the reservoir lakes; and b.

the acquisition of lake-specific data with regard to the location and depth of trout spawning beds to improve and protect fish habitat?

Yes, I agree Municipal Governments, along with TSW, MNRF and representation from our Lake associations should be involved with water management of our reservoir lakes.

Yes, water conservation should be to improved. When last on Council there were a few locks that required repairs as a lot water was wasted with bad repair. I don't know if those repairs have been started, I remember there was a lot of money involved as the locks and dams are getting up in age.

I will always believe data should be kept to improve fish spawning. We need fish in our lakes.

Greg Jackson, Councillor at Large

1. Do you agree that municipalities have a role to play in working to improve water management in the Haliburton Sector of the Trent River watershed? If so, are you personally committed to continued municipal support for the Upper Trent Water Management Partnership?

Yes, municipalities do have a role to play in working to improve water management and I am committed to continued support of the Upper Trent Water Management Partnership.

2. What would you do to strengthen the flood control and mitigation provisions of your municipality's Official Plan? For example, would you support initiatives to provide better flood plain mapping and flood mitigation planning as the basis for decision-making?

This should be considered as part of the Official Plan review being undertaken. Flood plain mapping is important for the future and have been advised that the municipality is currently doing flood plain mapping of north Pigeon Lake.

3. Do you agree that municipal governments should work with local lake associations, the Trent Severn Waterway (TSW) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) to further improve water management operations on reservoir and flow-through lakes and the connecting rivers? For example, are you in favour of: a. urging water conservation to support recreational use of the reservoir lakes; and b. the acquisition of lake-specific data with regard to the location and depth of trout spawning beds to improve and protect fish habitat?

Yes. We have been told for years the importance of water management. We need to do all we can but with the changing climate it is becoming more difficult to predict from year to year. I think if we could get the cottage associations to work more closely with the MNRF on a week to week basis to ensure the Ministry is aware of the changing water levels it would benefit all. This also needs to be shared with the Trent Severn/Parks Canada.

Terry Lambshead, Councillor at Large

1. Do you agree that municipalities have a role to play in working to improve water management in the Haliburton Sector of the Trent River watershed? If so, are you personally committed to continued municipal support for the Upper Trent Water Management Partnership?

I absolutely agree that Trent Lakes has an important role to play in continuing to support all water management issues that affect all water flows within our Municipality and the surrounding areas.

2. What would you do to strengthen the flood control and mitigation provisions of your municipality's Official Plan? For example, would you support initiatives to provide better flood plain mapping and flood mitigation planning as the basis for decision-making?

I have always felt that flood plain mapping and flood mitigation should be something Trent Lakes has a plan for that could be part of our Official Plan and we should be working closely with all similar organizations as CEWF to get accurate and current information.

3. Do you agree that municipal governments should work with local lake associations, the Trent Severn Waterway (TSW) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) to further improve water management operations on reservoir and flow-through lakes and the connecting rivers? For example, are you in favour of: a. urging water conservation to support recreational use of the reservoir lakes; and b. the acquisition of lake-specific data with regard to the location and depth of trout spawning beds to improve and protect fish habitat?

Water conservation by the TSW in our lakes seems to be a very sensible attempt to keep water levels in the reservoir lakes at a reasonable level throughout the heavily used recreational times. Some maximum and minimum flows should be established for the connection rivers to maintain fish and birds' habitats. This is so very critical during fish spawning and egg laying and hatch times for the birds. Frog egg laying and hatching should also be considered with the river flow rate. This can only be accomplished if Trent lakes and all levels of Government work with the lake and river associations as a united Voice

Thanks for all that your Coalition does to help us all get good information about the condition of our water systems.