

VOTERS' CHOICE

2014 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

The Independent & Free Press has posed a question to municipal candidates.

Here are the responses filed by Wards

3&4 Regional Council candidates (elect one) to:

What is the primary issue in Wards 3&4 and how would you address it?

Victoria Colby



Urban sprawl is the biggest concern for Wards 3 and 4. Georgetown is fighting to maintain our small town charm while we look in fear as neighbouring cities are exploding around us.

I will fight uncontrolled growth, to protect our community, environment and taxes. Our uniqueness and our identity are lost if we start to resemble every other suburb. Green space and farmlands are destroyed forever. The stress of burgeoning communities requires more development expense leads to increased taxes.

I would address this concern by being accountable, transparent and forthcoming while bringing a fresh and innovative perspective to the table.

I encourage strategic partnerships with residents, government and business to ensure that all future planning is limited to meet the needs of our town and our environment.

I won't presume to know what is the PRIMARY issue in Georgetown residents' minds. Property taxes, transportation, development, seniors' facilities and our young citizens' future are some top of mind topics highlighted on my website— individually, each of us has important issues we would like addressed. Personally, the health & safety threat posed by rapidly increasing levels of microwave radiation is my PRIMARY concern as it affects the well-being of everyone of us in Georgetown, especially our children. Do you ever feel disconnected from decisions made by government on your behalf? Do elected representatives ask for your input, other than at election time? I view the Regional Councillor as being Georgetown's representative on council, not council's representative to residents. As such I would seek input on what's important to the majority of residents and proceed accordingly. Tell me what is your PRIMARY issue at ElectJohnCooke.ca ... I'm listening.

3&4 Regional Council candidates (elect one) to:

John Cooke



Jane Fogal



The most common complaint I receive concerns the safety of our streets due to speeding, particularly in residential neighbourhoods as well as congestion around schools.

I am a proponent of taking a 'pedestrians first' approach that places pedestrians at the top of the priority heap, followed by cyclists and then vehicles. Our streets should be safe for our children and our seniors to use and enjoy. I have been advocating for a Complete Streets Policy that would require us to focus on making streets safer for children and pedestrians as the first order of business before reconstruction.

A Complete Streets policy would also assist in reducing traffic around schools and help get students walking to school again. Increased walking to school will be a priority for the next term and I would like to partner with principals, school councils, health promoters and school boards to tackle this issue.

My feeling is that in Wards 3 and 4, the primary issue is growth. How many more neighbourhoods will be built over the next four years? Infrastructure appears inadequate to handle rush hour now, what about when the new developments that we know of are built and families move in with a minimum of 2 cars per household? In the not too distant future, lake water will feed the 1,000 acres and Georgetown South. Will business leave the north to service all the uninhibited growth in the south?

My opponent has voted for growth for almost two decades. I worry that all the factors were not considered when trying to beat the imposed deadline from the province and the Places to Grow Act. Our small town feel is quickly eroding under the incumbent Regional Councillor for Wards 3 and 4. It is your turn to say how you feel about our town with your vote. On October 27, vote Ross McDuff.

Ross McDuff



Election Day is Monday, Oct. 27

Advance poll dates are:

Wednesday, Oct. 15, Saturday, Oct. 18 and Wednesday, Oct. 22.

For details on how and where to vote in the election go to www.haltonhills.ca/election2014

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Mon-Fri 11am-8pm • Sat 10am-6pm • Sun 12 noon - 5pm