



**Candidate Questionnaire**  
**2018 Municipal Election**

**Candidate: Alan Waffle**

**Please use as much space as you require to fully answer the questions.**

**General**

- Please provide a short bio of your Professional, Community and Municipal experience and explain how your particular skills will enhance decision making at Council.

\_ Cottager since 1955 on Island 113 (646) in Honey Harbour

Professional Chemical Engineer - retired

22 years with Environment Canada - Ontario Region -Reviewer of environmental assessments for federal projects with 12 years as Great Lakes Manager & Canadian secretariat to the Canada/United States Great Lakes Binational Toxics Strategy

4 years with Energy, Mines and Resources Canada promoting demonstration projects for emerging alternative energy technologies such as solar, wind, and ground/water source heat pumps

10 years in the Canadian Container Glass Industry as a technical glass making specialist and air quality engineer in Canada and Australia

Former Director of the Georgian Bay and the Honey Harbour Associations, sitting on their water quality and environmental committees respectively

Current volunteer President of the Royal York Baseball League in Etobicoke with 1200 players, over 350 volunteers and an executive of 19.



### **Services, Taxation and Good Governance**

- Describe your two highest priorities for our municipality, in the short term and the long term?

Yearly Fiscal Tax responsibility, but grow a substantial Reserve Fund.  
Equal representation at District for all Municipalities/Towns in the District.

- Many constituents believe that the services provided to seasonal residents are not commensurate with the taxes paid. What steps would you take to address this concern?

The Province takes 23.7% of our Tax Dollars for Education, the District takes 47.8%, leaving just 28.5% for Municipal use. At District, the 3 Townships have a total of 10 votes while the 3 Towns have a total of 12 votes. Therefore the Townships are usually outvoted by the Towns and as such, inequitable costs are downloaded to the Townships. District tends to treat the Townships as 'cash cows'. Needless to say, this relationship must change to provide a balanced approach to Governance.

### **Environment**

- Summarize your position on maintaining a balance between environmental sustainability and economic development. How important is it, and is a balance currently being maintained?

Economic Development can proceed and Environmental Sustainability can be ensured by adherence to Provincial Guidelines.

- The Township has financially supported Georgian Bay Forever along with several cottage associations in their efforts to control and eventually eradicate invasive Phragmites (Australis). What additional steps do you believe that the Township should be taking to assist with these efforts?

Continue to provide GBF with adequate funding to eradicate Phragmites and other Invasive Species.



- Are you satisfied with the costs and outcomes of the programs undertaken by Georgian Bay Township to help improve/maintain water quality in the Township, including water quality testing and the inspection/maintenance of residential septic systems? If not, what action or changes would you recommend?

Yes, satisfied, but a long term plan is needed of observation, evaluation, then execution; contingent with adapted management strategies.

Inspection by the Township of Residential Septic Systems are adequate. Proposed privatization by some to a 'for profit organization' will cost Township residents additional costs every year with the potential loss of Residential use if the septic system is found to be inadequate. It is important to recognize that septic systems are only one vector to water quality. All vectors must be considered with respect to a management strategy.

### **Planning**

- With regard to planning regulations and enforcement within Georgian Bay Township, how will you manage a balanced approach to protecting the interests of property owners and protecting the Georgian Bay ecosystem?

Current By-Laws regarding size of properties to be developed have effectively reduced intensive overdevelopment that we have seen in other Municipalities. Setbacks and Natural buffers are an important design criteria that must be adhered to. Design should be to the existing environment vs importing design concepts from the city that are inconsistent with the Georgian Bay environment.

- Community plans reflect the specific characteristics of each community. How will you protect their integrity and ensure the continued adherence to existing and future community plans?

Community Plans are excellent guidelines, but not written in stone. Proposed developments need to closely adhere to Community Plans but



need to allow for flexibility with interpretation regarding topography, and other physical and man-made obstructions.

### **Community Engagement**

- There are many stakeholder groups that are active or reside in Georgian Bay Township, including First Nations communities, community (cottage) associations, Georgian Bay focused organizations, and provincial and federal government agencies. In what ways are you satisfied that Georgian Bay Township is doing enough to work together cooperatively and productively with these stakeholders and in what ways do you believe that improvements are needed? If so, what improvements would you recommend?

I believe all stakeholders have an inherent right to present Delegations to Council, and that Council must consider their positions and opinions when reaching decisions. Additionally, the Township has many committees, such as Planning, and Water Quality to name a couple, where Constituents can provide direct input.

- How do you envision communicating with constituents, many of whom live out of the municipality for parts of the year, to get their opinions, hear their concerns and inform them of important township initiatives?

I think that the Township have numerous existing tools that allow Constituents to be informed of Township initiatives. Currently, Council and Committee of the Whole meetings are live-streamed but available for viewing after the fact too. Additionally, it is my understanding that Committee of Adjustment meetings will be live-streamed next term. Monthly Newsletters are sent to those Constituents that sign on for this up date and the Township website is a wealth of current and past information.



## Other

- If you have thoughts on topics not covered in the above questions or would like to just add a closing comment please feel free to do so here.
- **Forward Looking:**
- Continued fiscal responsibility of Township expenditures
- I support responsible, environmentally sound development to sustain the economy. Important for the local residents to be able to earn a living and provide sustainable services for the seasonal residents. Strong support for some development of the Honey Harbour Waterfront (more docking and beach/parkette area) and the Community Hub concept (school, library, parking and washrooms) at the former Our Lady of Mercy School.
- Unified alignment of township coastal concerns
- Ecosystem management to maintain water quality as fishable, swimmable and drinkable