

Council of the Municipality of Kincardine.

I wish to submit my Expression of Interest for the vacant Council Office for Ward 1, which was declared vacant by the Council of the Municipality of Kincardine, at their September 11th meeting.

I attended Georgian College and graduated from the General Secretarial Program in 1983. I then worked at Gordon Pharmacy as a Pharmaceutical Assistant, preparing prescriptions, invoicing small accounts and doing drug claims for Ontario Drug Benefit, Blue Cross, Green Shield and other companies.

In 1989 I took a job with the former Township of Kincardine. While at the Township I worked under the Clerk and did an assortment of jobs from reception, to preparing minutes and agendas, mailing tax bills, collecting taxes, payroll assistance and whatever else I was required to do. When amalgamation of Kincardine Township, Tiverton and Bruce Township and the Town of Kincardine took place in 1999, I was offered the position of Cashier/Clerk. I then moved up doing Accounts Receivable and Utility Billing and later to the position of Senior Accounting Clerk.

While in the positions of Cashier/Clerk and Accounts Payable Clerk, I took daily payments, did bank deposits, EFT payments, prepared utility invoices, ran arrears notices, bank balancing and licensing for refreshment vehicles, lotteries, taxi and dog tags.

As Senior Accounting Clerk I was involved with the collection and organization of all the Infrastructure of the Municipality. After this information was compiled I entered the information into the City Wide Program. This program kept track of all the assets, calculated depreciation and appreciation, ran reports for Senior Managers and Council. I prepared spreadsheets on new assets from information received on Progress Payment reports from engineers, contractors and invoices then uploaded the new information to the program. Likewise, any assets that were removed from service, I would complete a disposal. I also kept backup information in binders for all the assets.

During my time as a Municipal Employee I also took many courses through AMCTO and Seneca College. I completed my Municipal Tax Administration Program in 2012.

I have a basic understanding of how a Municipality works, from my time working; however, I do realize that I still have a lot to learn.

Items that I see that are important for this municipality are:

1. Aging Infrastructure
2. New Infrastructure Required
3. Affordable Housing
4. Doctor Recruitment and Viable Medical Resources
5. Economic Decline
6. Lost of Trust in Government Institutions

Our municipality has many assets that have reached or will soon reach end of life. As a Council we must find ways to replace or stretch the life expectancy of these assets. This will be a challenge with a limited budget to plan for sufficient resources for capital improvements. With the possibility of the Bruce C Project on the horizon we must be able to provide services for any new development in our municipality. We will need roads, sewer systems and water systems that can handle this development. We will also require medical resources, schools, recreation facilities and local shopping. We need to

encourage doctors and other medical professionals to locate here. If we can't provide these amenities, future ratepayers will settle in other municipalities.

Anyone can see that there has been a lot of construction in our municipality in the last couple of years. Several new subdivisions in both Kincardine and Tiverton are under way. We have to ensure that the developers not only build large single family units but also provide us with more affordable housing options such as row housing, condos or apartments. Rising interest rates, uncertain economy, the pandemic and escalating housing costs have made home ownership difficult.

For the past several years small businesses have suffered and are still struggling from the effects of the pandemic and the resulting economical turmoil it caused. We must encourage the small businesses and encourage new businesses to locate in our municipality.

Over the last several years the general public have lost trust in all levels of government. We as a local government must gain the trust and respect of the public by being proactive in maintaining transparency and open communication.

As for my personal life I am married and retired. My husband and I own a farm in Kincardine Township and we also own a house in the Town of Kincardine. My husband is still working for a local company in town.

I have three grown sons, who all live locally. I have seven grandchildren. I keep active and swim and walk daily. I am also a volunteer coach for the Kincardine Kipper's Swim Team.

So why would I put my name forward? Well I have an interest in my municipality and have worked in the municipal government for many years and I would like to have an opportunity to work as a councillor. It is something I thought about when I was working and now the opportunity has risen.

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