



Proven Leadership for a Sustainable Future in the Town of The Blue Mountains



ISSUE 4: September 27, 2018

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- Swiss Meadows
- Thornbury
- Victoria Corners

ENVIRONMENT #1:

The natural environment of the Town of The Blue Mountains is **our most precious resource** and the main reason many of us choose to live here. It is also the foundation of our unique four-season economy, including tourism, sports (cycling, hiking, skiing, kayaking, sailing and other water sports, etc.) and agriculture. Our natural capital is priceless and irreplaceable. Environmental stewardship is essential to the protection of our environmental and economic sustainability for the people who will come long after we have passed.

There are many things that concern me: impacts on our watershed and agricultural lands; source water protection; single use plastics; improper use of fungicides, pesticides and herbicides; and many others. When the province cancelled the 2.3-million-dollar fund that was intended to resolve our leachate (toxic fluid that accumulates in landfill sites) issue, I consulted an environmental scientist and a biochemical engineer who specialize in this area. Both were more than concerned! So, I sent a letter to Premier Ford and several of his ministers with portfolios relevant to TBM such as tourism and sport. My intention was to engage Premier Ford and/or his ministers in a discussion on the impact that decision has on our local environment and the potential impact on our provinces' tourism economy. We face increased potential hazards without that funding. Of major concern is the risk of toxic contamination that could occur should one of the 700 trucks per year, now hauling the leachate, have an accident that results in a spill. The plan for a pipeline was based on sound science, exploration of alternative solutions and costs. The September 10th Town Staff Report [CSPW.18.070](#) explains the decision-making process and provides very sound reasons why the pipeline solution is the best for our local environment. **My action is an example of effective due diligence and leadership to ensure environmental sustainability.**

As Your Deputy Mayor,

I will work with Council, Staff, the Agricultural Advisory Committee, Watershed Trust, GSCV (Grey Sauble Conservation Authority), NEC (Niagara Escarpment Commission), and others in our community who share a passion for environmental sustainability. We must ensure environmental stewardship and protection of our agricultural lands, watersheds, ANSI (Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest, such as the Shale) and Conservation Lands such as Pretty River Provincial Park. Compliance with County and Provincial land-use planning requirements, must be embedded in our Official Plan. I have a plan to involve all of you!
Stay tuned for the next newsletter.

Next Issue: October 4
More on the Environment

**On October 12 – 22, vote by phone or on-line
VOTE FOR ODETTE BARTNICKI**

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