

Bluewater Shoreline Residents' Association



Letter to all BSRA Member Association

Re **Municipal Election November 2006**

We are writing to update all member associations on BSRA's plans for the 2006 election and how member associations can assist in this process.

As you will recall BSRA was active in the 2003 election. We supported candidates financially, publicly endorsed candidates, visited member associations during their annual meetings and sent a letter to all individual lakeshore voters encouraging property owners to vote and reminding them of BSRA supported candidates. Our efforts were rewarded with a lakeshore voter turnout double the historical pattern and the election to council of four members with an understanding of and support for lakeshore issues. This translated into some success on issues such as the road allowance.

However, over the last two years key lakeshore issues such as assessment and tax relief, water quality and the official plan have been defeated by a 6 to 4 vote. Additionally it has become apparent there is a lack of willingness of the majority of council to listen to or take action on lakeshore issues. Consequently BSRA has decided to focus political efforts on ensuring the next Bluewater Council has a majority of members with the ability and willingness to address lakeshore concerns. We are looking for all members of council to have an awareness of a broad range of issues that are vital to the community's health and prosperity and who have good analytical skills, good communication skills, sound judgment and fiscal responsibility.

Part of this strategy will be to enhance efforts to get the lakeshore voters to vote, have their votes count (over 90 votes in the recent Bayfield by election were disqualified) and to support BSRA endorsed candidates. The BSRA executive will be starting to contact member associations in the near future. BSRA will be asking to have an executive member make a presentation at annual meetings and discuss other activities member associations can undertake to ensure success in the 2006 elections.

You can expect a call shortly to explain this initiative further, but if you have any questions please feel free to contact us through the BSRA web page (www.bsra.ca) or by contacting an executive member.

Sincerely

John Gillespie
BSRA President

Enclosed is the member fees notice.