



THE BULLETIN

A Brief Blog from the Board of the Mono Mulmur Citizens' Coalition

Issue #6 - MAY/JUNE 2022

THE WISDOM OF THE FOREST

Suzanne Simard, a Canadian scientist working in British Columbia has given us a beautiful, inspiring book titled: *Finding the Mother Tree, Discovering the Wisdom of the Forest* (2021). It is written in a personal, almost poetic way that takes you right into being with the forest and the astounding functions of Mother Trees. She describes ways she has found scientific evidence for the interdependence of trees, compelling us to view nature in a different way than how our corporate-consumer society approaches life. Instead of abstracted pieces of the ecosystem, she radically looks at nature

as an integral whole, as a “web of interdependence”. She talks about how this understanding of the trees might indeed save us.

Her key project, since 2015, it has been guided by a desire to protect Mother Trees as a way to keep connections within forests and to promote regeneration, especially given the effects of climate change. You can see an overview of her work by watching “Mother Trees and The Social Forest”, a TED talk available on YouTube. An additional documentary highlighting some of the same ideas covering

the boreal forest, titled “*What Trees Talk About*”, is available to view at www.cbc.ca/natureofthings.

Here in Mulmur and Mono we may think we have a surfeit of trees and therefore there is not a whole lot more that we need to do. If we seriously take in what scientists, indigenous people and many others have been communicating to us, looking at the earth in a holistic, integrated and regenerative way, then we know there is much we can do!

Rita Reitsma,
Co-chair of the Environment Committee

SOME THINGS WE CAN DO...

1. Learn about the work of Suzanne Simard to deepen our understanding and approach to life.
2. Plant more trees that are native to our area.
3. Use paper and wood sustainably – buy paper or wood with the Forest Stewardship Council label.
4. Refuse products with unsustainable palm oil.
5. Take care when hiking - protect vegetation and saplings.
6. Radically reduce our use of plastics.
7. Promote the cancellation of both Highway 413 and the Bradford Bypass which jeopardize our forests and our wetlands.
8. Vote for politicians willing to develop and adopt a Rights of Nature Legislation.
9. Urge companies to divest from fossil fuel expansion and compel our politicians to cut oil subsidies.
10. Share your views on what we can do and how we can't wait for strong climate action.
11. For more detailed information on discussions you can have with local candidates see the excellent piece prepared by the Ontario chapter of the Sierra Club:

<https://www.sierraclub.ca/en/ontario-chapter/2022-05-03/key-issues-environmental-justice-ontario-2022-election>

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TOWN OF MONO COUNCIL

The much desired summer season seems to have arrived finally. Mono Council has been busy taking care of the town's administrative matters. There appears to be few exceptionally large issues of interest to report to you.

One consideration on the council agenda is the request by CVC for an exemption to the noise by-law to hold seven events. As expected, there are objections from neighbours and other parties concerned with the time of day, purpose and consequential disturbance to residents and wildlife in the conservation area due to excessive noise associated with these events.

Dandex Holdings decided to withdraw their appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal. This will avoid another potential and costly appeal hearing.

A re-evaluation of development charges is currently under consideration with the potential to have tiered charges to facilitate the building of more low cost or affordable housing. This type of housing is in short supply. There is also a by-law in the works to limit very large size homes.

The Mono on a Bike event is cancelled due to poor registration. Hopefully, this event will return in the future and the public will participate in sufficient numbers that will

make this the successful event it has been in the past.

It's an election year both provincially and municipally. We urge everyone to become familiar with the names which will be posted for election or re-election. The names of municipal candidates with a short CV will be posted on the town website. The administration we elect will be the administration in place for the next four years. We encourage you to take notes on the candidates standing for election.

Enjoy your summer and stay safe.

NOTES FROM THE TOWNSHIP OF MULMUR

What does the future hold for the North Dufferin Community Centre (NDCC) now that Melancthon Council has decided to defer any decisions on participation in the Centre until after the 2022 election? This includes decisions regarding the full-scale review of the NDCC Agreement, the Joint Recreation Sub-Committee and the NDCC renovation project. The current

estimate for the addition and renovation is **\$9,940,727.00**. Make your feelings known about this!

Ken Cufaro has resigned from Council as he no longer lives in Mulmur. Ken's knowledge of policing and building inspection, as well as his thoughtful approach to the issues was greatly appreciated.

Earl Hawkins has submitted his nomination form for Deputy Mayor, the only candidate for Council listed on the Mulmur website as of May 30th. Last day for nominations is August 19, 2022.

2022 ELECTIONS

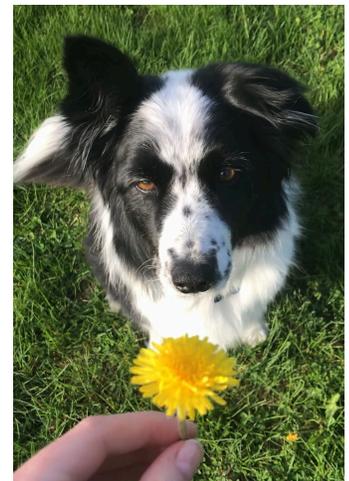
PROVINCIAL - JUNE 2
MUNICIPAL - OCTOBER 24

MC² will be hosting some all-candidates meetings prior to the Municipal elections. Stay tuned for the dates and times of these events, and please come out and get to know your future candidates.

These are critical times and the pressures on our rural municipalities to bend to urban demand is great. Our towns are seeing more visitors as people from the urban core

try to escape the concrete jungle for a day or two. Shepherding our towns and County safely through these challenges is going to take both commitment and vision.

It is very important to keep in mind that on our local councils, it only takes 3 votes to make a new by law or to change an existing one. It is vitally important to pay close attention to who the candidates are, and what their priorities look like. Our futures are at stake, so please take the time to meet with the candidates, review their platforms and vote.



Stay safe, stay healthy, stay connected – at a distance.
ARNOLD, BOB, CHERYL, DEL, ELAINE, FELICITE, KNUT, and RITA