

Answers to Questions from MC2 – 2018 Election
Laura Ryan – Candidate for Mayor of Mono

1. I have lots to offer the position of Mayor. I have 24 years experience in the political field representing Mono ratepayers. I care deeply for my community and want to be part of the solutions to our residents' issues as they arise. I want to continue to build on the solid base of policy & structure that exists currently in Mono. We will need to review many by-laws & policies to keep pace with the expectations of our residents.

I am committed to maintaining the environment and improving it with proper controls on development. I feel that we have to maintain a robust financial structure to protect our assets in the future. I believe that all decisions should be made acknowledging equity for all of our residents. We need to continue to monitor budget expenditures & plan for the pressures that climate change has made on our infrastructure.

At the County, I am concerned about senior support services and housing. The Dufferin Oaks facility is currently not able to provide space for the number of seniors that need long term care. We will have to decide where a new facility can be planned for to relieve the shortage of spaces.

2. Presently Mono has reached the required growth target mandated by the province under the Places to Grow Act. There is limited developable space left through out our Town. Commercial development can help relieve the tax burden on residential tax base. And there is many lots are available to develop.

To further develop any large residential areas, the Town would have to find sources of water to allow any future development. And the Province would not approve any application for new water towers. The Province is trying to encourage development in urban areas ie Orangeville, Shelburne & Grand Valley that currently have services.

3. Mono has always had a strong belief that keeping reserves for all capital assets future replacement. Having these reserves available allows modest rate increases if required in a tax year. This helps prevents spikes in taxation to cover extraordinary expenses in a budget year.
4. As there has been a number of new pits approved in the County, I think that there is minimal additional aggregate needed in our area at this time. Most of the product is shipped out of our County presently. There is little direct benefit to our community in accepting aggregate mining. I would continue to question the need, direct benefit and environmental impact of any new application. Our environment is too precious to risk.
5. Water is a finite resource. We need to continue to monitor aquifer levels, water quality and recharge areas. Mono has many basic principles in decisions made at the Council table. The main one is "How will this affect our water table?". We have many good connections with conservation authorities and we work closely with them to develop best practices. Our newly formed Headwaters Streams Committee has been working for a number of years to encourage

land-owners to take ponds off line from fresh water streams and to replant forest cover over the stream beds to help restore the health of these water courses. And there are many more teaching opportunities that we encourage with our residents.

6. We will be reviewing our noise by-law & enforcement issues during the next term of Council. We will be engaging new staff to ensure that our by-law is adhered to by residents for the benefit of our community.
7. We do have a revised by-law on fill placement in the works now & will continue to refine it as we are using it to control unwanted contamination of our soils. With the addition of staff, we will have the ability to lay charges on any infractions going forward.
8. We have been holding Town Hall meetings on a number of different topics to encourage residents to stay informed on their community. MC2 has been an asset in holding many special meetings on timely subjects also. Mono has many standing committees and we are fortunate that residents are interested in their community to get involved. We will continue to push out the information on issues through our website, social media and newsletters. For the future there is potential for more events to be hosted to encourage residents to stay involved.
9. To date, Mono Council has had no issues of Code of Conduct by Council members. We have had no complaints filed or concerns raised by residents. We will review the Code of Conduct along with our strategic plan with the new Council at an orientation in the beginning of the new term. This is the usual practice in place provided by our CAO & department heads.
10. As Mayor, I have always brought County issues under discussion back to Mono Council table and asked for guidance on how to proceed with voting. Many times over the last 4 years there have been conflicts of policy direction at the County and I have been guided by Mono Council's direction on voting.