NORTH GWILLIMBURY FOREST ALLIANCE

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Town of Georgina 2026 Municipal Election Questionnaire

Protecting the Greenbelt

Background

Ontario's Greenbelt protects farmland, communities, forests, wetlands and watersheds. It also preserves cultural heritage and supports recreation and tourism in Ontario's Greater Golden Horseshoe.

Question #1

Do you support keeping the current boundaries of the Greenbelt in the Town of Georgina?

Answer

Yes ___Yes_____ No _____ Undecided _____

Additional Comments *(please print)*

Yes, I support keeping the current boundaries of the Greenbelt in the Town of Georgina. I have always strongly supported protecting and maintaining the Greenbelt boundaries both here in Georgina at the local Council table and at the Regional table. As Mayor I would continue to work to ensure its protection. The message to the Province has been "hands off the Greenbelt" and I agree with that. Growth within Georgina needs to be well planned and stay within the Secondary Plan areas. We need to hold the line on those boundaries. Residents value the Greenbelt lands here in Georgina and beyond for its forests, wetlands and agricultural lands and look to us locally for its continued protection.

Question #2

Do you support keeping the current environmental protection rules for the Greenbelt Plan as they apply to the Town of Georgina?

Answer

Yes __Yes_____ No _____ Undecided _____

Additional Comments *(please print)*

Yes, I support maintaining the current environmental protection rules for the Greenbelt in Georgina.

Protecting the boundaries of the Greenbelt is only one part of the answer. Ensuring the current environment policies/rules remain in place are necessary to ensure that making changes doesn't become the slippery slope of eroding away the policies needed for environmental protection. We can grow without removing the protections that are necessary to ensure that growth is managed responsibly.

Opening Walking Trails in Lake Simcoe Conservation Preserve

Background

Thanks to Caroline Mulroney's leadership, in 2022, the Maple Lake Estates' forests, wetlands, meadows and farmlands in the Town of Georgina were transferred to the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority to create the Lake Simcoe Conservation Preserve (LSCP).

Question #3

Should some of the LSCP's existing walking trails be upgraded so that the public can have safe and environmentally appropriate access to its provincially significant wetlands and old growth forests?

Answer

Yes _____Yes_____ No _____ Undecided _____

Additional Comments *(please print)*

Yes. I support upgrading appropriate existing walking trails in the Lake Simcoe Conservation Preserve.

Providing public trails that are built to protect the environmental areas while providing the public with access to the Lake Simcoe Preserve can be achieved through careful design.

A balance can be achieved through consultation with the LSRCA and other environmental agencies. Without public trails people may create their own trail system in conflict with protecting the wetland and forests in the Preserve. Trails can offer the ability to educate people on our natural environment, the importance of wetlands and why it is necessary to protect them. Trails and protection can be done together with the right plan.

Margaret Quirk__September 7th 2026_____

Name (please print) Signature Date

Please return your response by Tuesday, September 8, 2026, to:

Jack Gibbons

Chair, North Gwillimbury Forest Alliance

Jack@SaveNGForest.org

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