

ALL CANDIDATES MEETING for South Cowichan
Sunday, October 2nd, 2022, 1-3pm
at the Cobble Hill Hall, 3550 Watson Ave.
Co-hosted by the Shawnigan Basin Society and BC Coalition Institute

Balancing Growth with Environmental Health:

Five specific questions plus a general question sent to each candidate. Each candidate will be asked to address the general question plus a specific question (drawn out of a box). There will be a public question period to follow. We will be asking for questions by area alphabetically until time is finished. CVRD will make a 5minute presentation regarding the referendum at the end of the question period and be available to answer questions at the end of the meeting. Please do not ask candidates questions regarding the referendum

Please introduce yourself and answer the General Question. time allowed 2 minutes

What do you see as the main environmental concerns in your area and why?

When prompted by the moderator, **Answer 1 of the following questions from the draw – Time allowed 2 minutes**

- 1) The CVRD is experiencing both population increase and climate change while at the same time subject to a housing shortage with many areas experiencing aquifer depletion. What are your thoughts on how we can have both an increased population and adequate drinking water supply and septic services?
- 2) At the last election the public approved a referendum to levy a \$750,000 tax for Drinking Water & Watershed Protection. To date, very little has been done with these funds. What do you see as a good use for the Drinking Water & Watershed Protection function for your area? In particular, many of the activities involving forestry and farming are outside the jurisdiction of local governments but local governments may try to influence activities that impact the health of the watershed. How could the Drinking Water & Watershed Protection function be used to protect our watershed from the harmful aspects of forestry & farming?
- 3) Water quality of lakes and streams are governed by the activities that occur near these bodies of water, activities such as forestry, farming, septic fields and soil landfilling.
 - a) Landfilling operations bring nutrient-bearing sediment into the streams and lakes of our watersheds. How would you change the Soil Deposit Bylaw to reduce the amount of sediment entering our water bodies?
 - b) Riparian areas provide many ecological functions. How would you promote the protection and restoration of riparian areas?
- 4) The main CVRD drivers concerning parks and trails is recreation.
 - a) Do you think ecological concerns around parks & trails should be an important consideration?
 - b) What mechanisms do you propose for public input on the acquisition and management of parks & trails?
- 5) Environmental issues and land use are controlled by various levels of government. With an eye to improving government-government relations with First Nations, what training have you received or plan to receive and what plans do you have in place for improvement of relations with First Nations governing bodies?