



EAR to the GROUND

OCTOBER 2022 ISSUE

Dear South Bruce residents:

With the municipal election slated for Oct. 17-24, it's time for us to think about what's most important for our community. Whether you're a farmer, welder, plumber, tradesman, business owner or a homemaker, voting is so important for the future of Teeswater, Mildmay, Formosa, Belmore, and the great rural area of South Bruce.

First of all, we need positive, community-minded elected officials who recognize that change is inevitable and that they have a role to play in managing it. The baseline data released this summer remind us that even without the proposed DGR, population and jobs will increase in South Bruce over the next 25 years.

Our community is going to change. We need a council that has a vision for a vibrant and prosperous South Bruce.

I want to see opportunities for our young people and a healthy quality of life for all. Let's keep our community progressive, positive and polite.

I also want to see South Bruce "open for business." We need our businesses to thrive and expand to help with all the infrastructure improvements, such as bridges, roads, arenas, parks and schools, which will be required over the next few years. The studies presented at the Community Liaison Committee this summer provided a great inventory of our community assets:

- The Infrastructure Study noted that while the DGR site would require new infrastructure services, natural population growth would also require some infrastructure upgrades and expansion even without the project.
- The Education Study found that schools serving the study area are currently 70% to 95% utilized. The school age population in the study area is anticipated to increase significantly between 2021 and 2046, and an additional 15% if the DGR project moves forward. While some schools have capacity to accommodate this growth, others will exceed 100% utilization in five to 15 years.
- The Recreation Study identified the need to plan for the eventual replacement of our aging arenas. It also noted that our public libraries serve to connect our community and ideally would be larger to accommodate growth and allow room for enhanced programming.

A municipality with a healthy mix of tax revenue from residential, farm, industrial, and commercial properties can more effectively fund necessary local government expenditures.

Finally, NWMO has extended the timeline to identify a site until fall 2024. The COVID-19 pandemic limited our opportunities to come together with our friends and neighbours to consider this once-in-a-lifetime proposal.

What we learned with the Confidence in Safety Report released this summer is that a DGR in South Bruce would be safe. Let's stay committed to the site-selection process to continue to explore how the DGR might be implemented in South Bruce. Let's take our time to engage with NWMO, to provide feedback to council, and to explore what we want our community to look like in 10, 20 or 30 years.

This municipal election is critical because those who are elected have the potential to influence the future of South Bruce for generations. We need a council that can have healthy debate, set aside personal interests, and work together for the greater good. The discussions and negotiations that happen as part of the DGR site selection process over the next term of office will have an impact on the lives of our kids, grandkids and great-grandkids. Let's keep them in mind when we place our vote.

Larry Hayes, Teeswater



Downtown Teeswater



Mildmay-Carrick Library

**SOUTH BRUCE MUNICIPAL ELECTION
ALL CANDIDATES
MEETING**

Come to hear from the candidates for the 2022 South Bruce Municipal Election, which takes place October 17-24, 2022

THURS OCT 13	7PM Doors open @ 6:30	Teeswater Culross Community Centre
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Hosted by...

Voting in a municipal election is a small act, but it has a big impact on our community. From roads and drinking water to economic development and recreation facilities, municipal council decisions can affect every part of your day. Let's make sure we all do our part to learn about the candidates and the issues facing South Bruce. Voting is how we can help shape decision-making in our community.

Your candidates are:

Office	# to be elected	Candidates
Mayor	1	Robert Buckle* Mark Goetz* Rita Groen
Teeswater-Culross Ward Councillor	2	Mark Ireland* Mike McDonagh* Gordon Ripley Michelle Stein
Mildmay-Carrick Ward Councillor	2	Audrey Bross - <i>acclaimed</i> Jeff Goetz - <i>acclaimed</i>
At-large Councillor	2	Mike Niesen* Nigel VanDyk Sandy Bunker Doug Kreller

* current council members

Willing to Listen Event

A physician's perspective on Nuclear Waste

On Sept. 17, about 50 people from a wide cross-section of the community heard presentations from Dr. Chris Keefer, emergency physician, educator and the president of Canadians for Nuclear Energy, and Dr. Doug Boreham, Division Head of Medical Sciences at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine. Highlights of the presentations included:

- Increased nuclear production in Ontario eliminated coal, improved air quality and reduced respiratory illnesses.
- The design of the proposed DGR in South Bruce has layer upon layer of barriers to ensure nuclear waste never gets into the environment.

- Radiation is all around us and most of the dose an average person receives is naturally-occurring or related to medical procedures.
- Radiation from used fuel bundles is safely shielded using substances such as concrete, lead, or water and loses 99.9% of its radioactivity in the first 10 years.

In summary, these two specialists did not take sides on whether a DGR should be built, or whether it should be built in South Bruce. That is for South Bruce residents to decide. What they did was effectively debunk the idea that a DGR would ever pose a risk to the land or water in South Bruce, or that radiation from a DGR would ever cause a health risk.

If you have any questions or comments for us at Willing to Listen, please reach out via the Facebook page or email willingtolistensouthbruce@gmail.com

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SOUTH BRUCE DGR

PRO COMMUNITY LEARNING