



GET TO KNOW YOUR CANDIDATES FOR POPLAR BAY COUNCIL

Election Day for the Summer Village of Poplar Bay Council is Saturday **August 26, 2017** at the **Summer Villages Office, 605-2nd Avenue, Ma-Me-O Beach** from **10 am to 7pm**. In order to vote you must present **identification for inspection**. For more details, refer to the *Notice of Election and Requirements for Voter Identification* which was recently mailed to you.

There are four candidates running for three Council positions:

- Gary Carew (current Councillor)
- Fraser Hubbard
- Ian Johnston
- Brian Meaney (current Councillor)

As a way for residents to get to know them better, each candidate has provided answers to the following four questions:

1. WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR POPLAR BAY COUNCIL?
2. WHAT SKILLS & EXPERIENCE DO YOU BRING TO COUNCIL?
3. WHAT ARE YOUR TOP THREE PRIORITIES FOR OUR SUMMER VILLAGE?
4. WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON THE WASTEWATER PROJECT?

If you have questions for any of the candidates, their email information has been provided, so please contact them directly.

CANDIDATE: GARY CAREW - gary_carew@hotmail.com

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR POPLAR BAY COUNCIL?

I want to continue the good work council has done with the Waste Water project.

WHAT SKILLS & EXPERIENCE DO YOU BRING TO COUNCIL?

Highly organized, energetic individual with many years' experience managing a mid-size specialty contracting business as President and CEO; Experienced councillor.

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP THREE PRIORITIES FOR OUR SUMMER VILLAGE?

1. Waste Water Project
2. Lake Water quality
3. Continued good fiscal management

WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON THE WASTEWATER PROJECT?

I am very much in favor of the waste water project as demonstrated by my time on council over the last few years.

CANDIDATE: FRASER HUBBARD - hubbardf@shaw.ca

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR POPLAR BAY COUNCIL?

We have been Summer residents of Poplar Bay for 14 years and I've wanted to become more involved in the community for some time, however with my job and everything else going on I was never able to fully commit the time it would take. I recently retired and I now have the time and energy to devote to doing more here at the lake and saw working on council as a perfect way to contribute to our village.

Another factor which influenced my decision to run for council was based on many conversations with other residents of Poplar Bay over last few years discussing numerous village issues and discovering a lack of information available to residents creating frustration and misinformation. I believe our council is doing a great job at managing the village, but for some reason the communication of that information to the residents seems to be somewhat sparse. My belief is with a lack of information people are left to their own imagination and as a result stories and misinformation become the norm, resulting in frustration and more questions. I also fully believe that standing by and simply spreading misinformation or complaining doesn't do anyone any good, as a result I believe it was my duty to step up and become a more active member of this lake community. Communicating to the residents will be a priority for me if I am successful in the election.

WHAT SKILLS & EXPERIENCE DO YOU BRING TO COUNCIL?

I have been employed in the oil and gas industry for 35 years, 20 of those years spent in senior management roles, I also ran my own consulting company in the oil and gas industry for several years. During my career, I was responsible for managing numerous projects involving large numbers of employees and stakeholders. As a result, I have become a very detail oriented, technically driven individual who can bring those skills to any project or task I am involved in. I spend many hours researching answers to questions and details on any topics or issues that may affect me as a result I believe I am very knowledgeable about many of the issues that our community is working on.

My management experience has allowed me to develop a very strong open communication style and a belief that communicating facts and information to all stakeholders creates a stronger sense of involvement and ownership in projects. This involvement reduces frustration and fear of the unknown and results in strong unity and reduces opposition to whatever issue is being worked.

In summary, I would say that the experience or skill that I bring to this roll is my open communication style and my ability to look at all issues from all angles before making decisions and my ability to take all inputs into consideration when making decisions.

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP THREE PRIORITIES FOR OUR SUMMER VILLAGE?

1. Improve on existing Communications and develop new ways to ensure dialogue between elected council and property owners of the village ensuring timely open communication on all decisions and council initiatives. Open communication must mean more than posting documents on the website.
2. Having the sewer system installed and operating in the village while ensuring we do everything we can to minimize financial burden and disruption to the residents of Poplar Bay. Again, this would include clear open dialogue with all ratepayers to ensure they understand each step of the process involving the sewer installation while ensuring each property owner understands how it will affect their property and what they need to do to be ready for hookup.
3. Village assets, this would include roads and our municipal reserve land, our village is blessed with many reserves and likely some of the best roads in the area. We must do everything we can to ensure that we maintain the roads and municipal lands in a way to benefit all the taxpayers of the village. The reserve municipal lands ensure access to the lake for all taxpayers and, as a result, help to increase property value and enjoyment of our lake this is critical to the sustainability of our village. Roads and road maintenance including snow removal is also important to our residents and as such must remain a focus of the council.

WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON THE WASTEWATER PROJECT?

I am not sure there's a position to be taken on the waste water at this time, over the last many years decisions have been made with the best information available at the time and a selected engineered sewer system is now being installed in several villages on the south side of the lake, with Poplar Bay's installation on the very near horizon.

Regardless of what system was selected, overtime there would always be an issue raised on the details, however I believe sound engineering has been done in selecting the system and now we need to move past the yes or no on the system merits and more to how it is going to function and what that means to each and every property owner in our village.

As a result, I believe our council need to now focus on how to be fiscally responsible in spending our taxpayer dollars to ensure we get the maximum return possible while creating the least disruption to people’s summer enjoyment of our lake Community.

CANDIDATE: IAN JOHNSTON - lrjohnston17@shaw.ca

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR POPLAR BAY COUNCIL?

I would like to make a positive contribution in the improvement of our lake community.

WHAT SKILLS & EXPERIENCE DO YOU BRING TO COUNCIL?

I am a third generation Pigeon Lake property owner having enjoyed visiting Pigeon Lake since early childhood. I am a professional engineer with a degree from the University of Alberta and have more than 30 years of successful business experience in the field of heavy industrial construction. My qualifications for a position on the council of a summer village include 20 years’ experience on several corporate, industry and community boards. Including; PCL Construction, Sherwood Park District Soccer Association, Capital Region United Way, Construction Labour Relations -Alberta, and, the University of Alberta School of Construction.

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP THREE PRIORITIES FOR OUR SUMMER VILLAGE?

1. Maintain property taxes at the current level.
2. Improve the water quality of Pigeon Lake.
3. Increase the value of properties within the summer village.

WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON THE WASTEWATER PROJECT?

I support the installation of the waste water collection system.

CANDIDATE: BRIAN MEANEY- bmeaney@shaw.ca

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR POPLAR BAY COUNCIL?

I am a resident just like you and want the best outcomes for our Summer Village – my family and I plan on being here for many years to come. I think it is important that decisions regarding the governance of Poplar Bay are made locally with the best interests of the community in mind. I believe my background allows me to

make valuable contribution, especially as we move into the final stages of construction and commissioning of the wastewater project.

WHAT SKILLS & EXPERIENCE DO YOU BRING TO COUNCIL?

As Deputy Mayor for the past four years, my main focus has been advancing the wastewater project. As president/ owner of B. Meaney Consulting Ltd. for the past 32 years, I have been involved in projects across Alberta and Saskatchewan, in both commercial and residential developments. I deal with contactors from all disciplines every day and I know the questions to ask to make sure that Poplar Bay is getting the best value for its money. I am a pragmatic business man and bring that same approach to my role on Council.

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP THREE PRIORITIES FOR OUR SUMMER VILLAGE?

1. Completion of the wastewater project
2. Improving fire safety and preparedness
3. Supporting initiatives to improve the health of Pigeon Lake

WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON THE WASTEWATER PROJECT?

I am strongly in favour of the wastewater project and committed to seeing it through to completion. It is important to keep the momentum now that funding is in place and approvals have been met. It is my priority to see the completion of the local system in 2018.

On Election Day, you will cast votes for three (3) of these four individuals for Council. The three candidates who receive the most votes will be your Council. Very soon after the election results are finalized, there will be an Organizational Meeting, where the Councillors will be sworn in and appointments of Mayor, Deputy Mayor and various Committee memberships will be made. You will meet your new Council at the **Annual Information Meeting on Saturday September 2, 2017 at 10 am at the Ma-Me-O Community Hall.**

Hopefully this information will help you to make an informed decision on August 26.

Please get out and vote!