

West Vancouver - All Candidates Responses to Urban Agriculture & Food Security Survey

MAYOR & COUNCIL CANDIDATES: Please respond to the following questions by ranking your interest in or support of each initiative.			
	An issue I would need to learn more about before taking an interest in	An issue I would support if put forward by other elected officials	A high priority issue that I will personally take action on
1. There is a high demand for community garden space across the North Shore. If elected, what priority would you place on addressing this demand for community garden space within your jurisdiction?		Mary-Ann Booth, Council	Nora Gambioli, Council Trish Panz, Council David Jones, Council Gregg Henderson, Council Craig Cameron, Council
2. Economic opportunities related to local food and urban agriculture sector are increasing. If elected, what priority would you place on increasing/supporting farmers market, local food enterprises, and other community programs addressing 'local food sector' economic opportunities?		Mary-Ann Booth, Council Gregg Henderson, Council	Nora Gambioli, Council Trish Panz, Council David Jones, Council Craig Cameron, Council
3. Many cities have food policy councils established to bring municipal staff, local experts, and community members together to research and develop policies related to local food security issues. If elected, what priority would you place on forming a food policy council for the North Shore?	David Jones, Council Gregg Henderson, Council	Mary-Ann Booth, Council Craig Cameron, Council	Nora Gambioli, Council Trish Panz, Council
4. The Union of BC Municipalities (UMBC) has supported a resolution that encourages municipalities to undertake a public land inventory for urban agriculture activities, and to develop related policies in support		Mary-Ann Booth, Council Gregg Henderson, Council Craig Cameron, Council	Nora Gambioli, Council Trish Panz, Council David Jones, Council

of these activities. If elected, what priority would you place on this initiative?			
5. There are many people on the North Shore that do not have secure access to food. There are opportunities to better support vulnerable populations including; programs that reduce food in the waste stream by processing recovered food and making it accessible to vulnerable communities, programs to develop improved food skills or the development of an inventory that identifies accessible foods. If elected, what priority would you place on supporting these initiatives?	David Jones, Council Gregg Henderson, Council	Mary-Ann Booth, Council	Nora Gambioli, Council Trish Panz, Council Craig Cameron, Council

Written Responses:

Name:	Position Running For:	Why do you think that food security and urban agriculture are important issues for the municipality?	5. Please use this space to elaborate on any of your responses to the "ranked" questions above.
Mary-Ann Booth	Council	As our world population grows, more food is required to feed the planet. Further, with larger, multi-national conglomerates controlling food production, the quality of food available has deteriorated. Anything we can do at the municipal level to encourage local healthy food production will help address both of these issues.	As this is my first time running for council, I would like to have an opportunity to formulate a strategic plan with my fellow councilors to determine our priorities for the next 3 years, and where the issues of food security and urban agriculture fits within that plan for our community.
Nora Gambioli	Council	Because these reduce greenhouse gas emissions and climate change. As well, supporting local economies and businesses is	I have been involved in urban agriculture/food security initiatives with the EGP and municipal committees for many years already, I have also been

		good for community-building, as are food/agriculture education gained through the actual practice of urban agriculture.	involved in the Table Matters initiative from its inception.
Trish Panz	Council	There is a growing interest and awareness of local sustainable food systems, food security, impacts on food systems globally with our changing climate, and a real desire to connect with local food systems in our communities. The benefits are well know: community health and wellness, education around food, and a way to connect to our natural systems and each other.	Encouraging community leadership and partnerships in developing long term models, promoting viable and sustainable projects within the community is key for success. Our Parks Master Plan has incorporated a recommendation for a wide range of sustainable food opportunities within that Plan.
David Jones	Council	Having “Food Security” is important to the municipality because it refers to the availability of food for the citizens of that community. Urban agriculture increases the amount of fresh fruits and vegetables available to people living in cities without adding to the carbon footprint by reducing distribution.	
Gregg Henderson	Council	I need to learn more about this issue and its' significance to West Vancouver.	I must confess this is an area that I am uninformed about. I look forward to learning more. Health and diet is a huge focus in my life.
Craig Cameron	Council	We import a great deal of our food, often from countries thousands of miles away. If we are able to produce more food at home, we will reduce our vulnerability to disruptions in the food distribution system. On a less dramatic level, locally grown food is healthier and has a far smaller environmental footprint. Our children should learn where their food comes from and should learn the skills to produce it.	One cannot have endless priorities. My focus will be on supporting community gardens (for various reasons) and farmers markets/local food enterprises. I also feel we must ensure that all people on the North Shore have secure access to food. We have the capacity and there is no excuse not to use it. While I feel that food policy and land inventories are important initiatives, I want to concentrate my efforts on measure that will have an on-the-ground effect. I will, however, support the higher level initiatives if brought forward by

			others.
Michael Evison	Council	No Response	No Response
Damian Kettlewell	Council	No Response	No Response
Michael Lewis		No Response	No Response
Max Nikpay		No Response	No Response
Carolanne Reynolds		No Response	No Response
Bill Soprovich		No Response	No Response
Vivian Vaughan		No Response	No Response

School Trustees:

SCHOOL TRUSTEES: Please respond to the following questions by ranking your interest in or support of each initiative.			
	An issue I would need to learn more about before taking an interest in	An issue I would support if put forward by other elected officials	A high priority issue that I will personally take action on
1. If elected, what priority would you place on ensuring children's access to healthy, fresh, and local food in school?	Carolyn Broady, School Trustee Cindy Dekker, School Trustee		Jane Kellett, School Trustee
2. There are under-utilized schools grounds that could be developed into educational, community based, and economically viable urban agriculture sites. If elected, what	Cindy Dekker, School Trustee	Carolyn Broady, School Trustee	Jane Kellett, School Trustee

priority would you place on exploring and developing these projects (i.e. inventory of appropriate land, pilot project)?			
3. School gardens are increasing in popularity as teachers strive to connect children with experiential learning opportunities and sustainability issues. If elected, what priority would you place on developing a school garden policy and supporting programming to enable schools to develop and maintain school gardens easily?	Cindy Dekker, School Trustee		Jane Kellett, School Trustee

Written Responses:

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Carolyn Broady	School Trustee	I think its important in the school district to support urban agriculture and local products as it encourages student involvement and understanding in environmental and sustainability issues.	We have a number of school gardens in the WV School district. I support the expansion of these programs, with community involvement, as assistance is needed during the summer months to ensure the gardens flourish.
Cindy Dekker	School Trustee	-	-
Christine Banham	School Trustee	No Response	No Response

Reema Faris	School Trustee	No Response	No Response
Jane Kellett	School Trustee	We can't rely on importing our food and we must begin to grow locally.	A lot is happening in schools right now but we can do better. For example, there is the Urban Agriculture course at WVSS and Bowen Island Community School has a garden. Introducing students to farming, locally produced fruit and vegetables not only improves students' health, provides material for lessons and also encourages students and their families to begin their own gardens. We must, of course always ensure that we have the funds, staff and volunteers available to do such projects.
Dave Stevenson	School Trustee	No Response	No Response