

1. Tell us a bit about yourself

I live on Dungannon Road, not far from Port Albert, Kingsbridge and Dungannon. My wife, Bridget, is a teacher at GDCI, and we have three teenage sons. Our oldest is heading to college this fall.

Working with family and neighbours, we own and operate farm equipment to plant, care for, and harvest grain crops consisting of corn, IP soybeans and winter wheat, while promoting soil health.

Born and raised in the ACW community, I have had the opportunity to listen to many of the older members of our community about the issues, both positive and controversial, that have shaped our region.

I also feel lucky to have the opportunity to spend time with my teenage sons and their peers, hearing their perspectives on how they foresee the future of ACW.

Like many young family farms, we have relied on off-farm employment. Some of the careers and experiences I have had include:

- **Northern Cross – 1990 to present (part-time):** Field technician assisting with natural gas wells and pipeline maintenance within ACW, oil and gas exploration with seismic crews, etc.
- **Vestas – 2001 to 2006:** Wind turbine technician, travelling across North America, eventually becoming Lead Technician for Eastern Canada.
- **EPCOR / Capital Power – 2006 to 2017:** Kingsbridge Wind Farm Operations Manager.
- **Miller Group (Lavis) – 2024 to present (part-time):** Snowplough driver on Highway 21 between Goderich and Amberley.

2. Why are you running in the election?

In recent years, I've recognized that many of the community leaders and role models who have helped shape this community are slowly stepping away due to age or moving on to other interests in their lives. At the same time, I'm seeing and experiencing our younger generation looking for advice and leadership.

I feel it's important that we continue to have people step forward, listen to our community, and help provide that leadership for the next generation.

3. Previous political experience

This will be my first time serving as a Municipal Councillor; however, I have appeared before Municipal Council regarding a number of matters over the past 20 years.

4. Community involvement

I've been involved in several community groups over the years. A few examples include:

- Dungannon SuperPull Committee – 2001 to present

- Huron County Grain Farmers of Ontario Delegate & Treasurer – 2019 to present
- Dungannon Agricultural Society – assisting with efforts to revitalize the Dungannon Fair, including the Vintage Tractor Pull
- Member of the ACW Agricultural Property Standards Working Group
- Magnetic Moments Campaign Cabinet Member – fundraising to bring the first MRI machine to Huron County.

5. What sets you apart?

My life experiences have given me the opportunity to understand many different aspects of our community. I feel this will help me connect with and listen to our residents, our agricultural community, and our Amish neighbours.

6. Why should constituents vote for you?

I feel I'm a good listener, I'm honest, and I'm not afraid to speak up when I believe something is important. I will listen to the concerns of our residents and work to represent our community to the best of my ability. While I know I have much to learn, I have a strong knowledge base regarding infrastructure, agriculture, and municipal issues. I also feel like I have many strong connections and relationships within both the municipality and the county which could be beneficial.

7. First agenda item

I don't have one specific agenda item that I would put ahead of everything else. I would first want to listen, learn, and understand the priorities and challenges facing our municipality. From there, I would work with Council and our staff to determine where we can make the greatest difference for our community. I don't have a personal agenda but am most concerned with looking ahead, maintaining a strong municipality, improving community cohesiveness and being transparent.

8. Three highest-priority issues

Roads & Bridges: We need to ensure tax dollars are available to properly maintain our existing roads and bridges and keep them safe and open for our residents, farmers and businesses.

Protecting our drinking water, lakefront, and conservation authorities: Community drinking water systems need to be protected and well managed. I would also advocate for maintaining local conservation authorities and oppose the province's plan to consolidate the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) into a much larger regional entity.

New development & growth: We need to ensure new development in ACW benefits our municipality over the long term. This includes any type of development, including agricultural, residential, energy and aggregate development. Growth needs to be managed responsibly while considering the impact on existing residents, infrastructure, agriculture and our environment.

9. Values and priorities

ACW is made up of many people from different walks of life, with different views and experiences. I believe I could use my position on Council to help the different communities within ACW better understand each other's points of view by listening, sharing experiences and encouraging respectful and productive discussion.

My priority would be to make decisions based on what is best for the municipality as a whole, while understanding and respecting the different needs of our communities.

10. Four-year accomplishment / measuring success

I want to see this municipality continue to thrive by providing a good living and working environment like we have today. I would measure success by looking at whether we are maintaining our budget and infrastructure, managing growth responsibly, protecting the things that make ACW a great place to live and work, and listening to our residents.

My goal is simple: **"We need to leave it better than we found it."**

11. Anything else you'd like to say?

I'm not running because I think I have all the answers. I'm running because I care about our community, I'm willing to listen, and I'm not afraid to speak up when something matters.

I've lived and worked in this community for my entire life, and I want to help make sure ACW remains a great place to live, work, raise a family and operate a business or farm.

I would be honoured to have the opportunity to serve our community as your Municipal Councillor.