

Lakeshore Road South Association
October 12,2018

This letter is addressed to all candidates running for the 2018 Municipality of Meaford Council.

The members of the “Lakeshore Road South Association” in the Municipality of Meaford,ON would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you , on this opening day of voting, success in the 2018 Municipal Elections.

If you were on the previous Town Council you will be aware of the issues surrounding the maintenance and funding of Meaford’s many Road Associations. If you are new to this Council you will want to understand this relationship in its historical and current context.

The ‘Lakeshore Road South Association is comprised of 17 homes and 25 lots. It is a ‘Private Road”. We currently receive a yearly allotment from the municipality for road maintenance and repair in the amount of \$2436.23. Traditionally we have been granted permission to piggy back our road maintenance projects with Municipality tenders for road repair and improvement. We wish to continue this current arrangement with the Municipality of Meaford.

In September of 2017 the Municipality of Meaford requested that Road Associations form Official Associations with constitutions and by-laws and that they carry Liability Insurance. We have met both of these recommendations. Our formalized Lakeshore Road South Association will be registered with FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottagers) and insured for Road and Directors and Officer’s Liability by the end of 2018.

We are requesting that the new Meaford Council continue to address this Road Association Funding Issue in a manner that balances financial responsibility while ensuring fairness to Road Association residents. In many cases these Road Association residents pay some of the highest rates of Municipal taxes, as they reside on the waterfront. This has been a financial benefit to the Municipality. The Municipality receives full taxes but provides fewer services to our residents. As current Road Association allocations are not a pressure on the annual budget or Municipal Tax Rate increases, and the financial benefit the Municipality receives from the development of Road Association properties far exceeds the current funding allocations to these Road Associations, we feel that our request is both reasonable and responsible.

As our demographics change we are seeing more cottages being renovated for year-round permanent occupancy. Our municipality is reaching out to encourage residential growth in all age demographics. To this end, fair and equitable taxation will be expected and demanded by those looking to relocate to our community. Everyone uses the roads, the services and enjoys the wonderful amenities we have in Meaford. Fair taxation is an expectation of all residents and we feel that it should be a major goal of Municipal Council and Municipal Executive Staff.

We ask that all future decisions between the Municipality of Meaford and its Road Associations regarding road maintenance and repair and delivery of services continue to be arrived at through collaboration, with the goal of arriving at fair and equitable solutions for all.

To this end we look forward to working in a positive, collaborative partnership with the newly elected Meaford Town Council.

Sincerely,

Joanne Clement
Vice President, Lakeshore Road South Association
Meaford, ON

Cc

Ian Wilcox, President, LRSA

Paula Wilcox , LRSA

Len Rhodes, LRSA

Val Brodrick, LRSA

Evelyn Dean LRSA