



2018 Municipal Elections, Candidates' Questionnaire
Councillor Ridout
Candidates: Henry McClelland, Penny McEachern

Click on any question to go directly to the answers for that question.

1. Why do you want to be a Township of Lake of Bays Councillor? Highlight work and community experience that has prepared you for this position and the skills you bring to the role.
2. What is your working style? Describe how you work to ensure productive discussion and resolution of issues and how co-workers and colleagues describe your working style.
3. Name three priorities for the Township of Lake of Bays and how you will address them.
4. How do you or will you balance constituents' interests and staff recommendations?
5. How will you work with the Lake of Bays Association, its members and other community groups?
6. How will you balance economic development and environmental issues?
7. What is your position on more clean energy projects in the Township of Lake of Bays?
8. Do you support or oppose the as-proposed development of Langmaid's Island into 36 lots, and two mainland parking sites? Why?
9. What is your position on funding for the day-to-day operations of the Township of Lake of Bays libraries in Dwight and Baysville? Highlight whether you feel the current funding level is appropriate, and if not, how would you modify it; as well as whether you support Township of Lake of Bays funding to expand the Dwight library?
10. What is your position on hospital reform in Muskoka and do you support maintaining hospitals in each of Bracebridge and Huntsville?
11. What area(s) of Township of Lake of Bays spending do you think is given too much funding? Why?
12. What area(s) of Township of Lake of Bays spending do you think is given too little funding? Why?
13. What ways would you work to increase affordable housing in the Township of Lake of Bays?
14. Complete this sentence. Vote for me because ...

Contact Information

1. Why do you want to be a Township of Lake of Bays Councillor? Highlight work and community experience that has prepared you for this position and the skills you bring to the role.

Henry McClelland	Penny McEachern	
No response	<p><u>My Skills & Knowledge</u> - I feel that my work experience with the Provincial government (MNR, MTO) and the private sector (McEachern Real Estate, Robinson’s General Store, Carillion Canada) has provided me with the skills to effectively work on behalf of our community as a Councillor. Having worked in both the private and public sector I have gained valuable insight, knowledge and skills to do this work. <u>My interests & commitment to the community</u> my roots are in the area and my commitment to respecting and protecting the culture, environment and heritage of Lake of Bays gives me a unique perspective on the issues facing us. My family has been on Paint Lake for four generations so I know the area. I care about the wellbeing of our community and the need to work together to improve economic opportunity for all, thus my work on projects that improve quality of life and tourism to our area. This position on council will be an extension of my volunteer work which has brought many community benefits to Dorset and the larger Lake of Bays Community. <u>My community experience</u> In my capacity on the Board of Directors (Secretary) for the Dorset Community Partnership Fund for the past six years I have been directly involved in several community projects for example: the children’s playground, Pavilion Park, Cedar Narrows Park and the Community Health Hub . With other community groups I have: been a member of a water station during Ironman; collected money at the Dorset Fireworks; Board member at the MOE workplace daycare; helped</p>	

	<p>to run the Kitty Cat rides at the Dorset Snowball. I am an active volunteer and have been involved in several fundraising projects, learning how to work across multiple levels of government (Federal, provincial and municipal) and working with granting agencies (for example the Ontario Trillium Foundation) and community groups. I believe that running for Council is yet another concrete way for me to give back to the place that means so much to me.</p>	
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2. What is your working style? Describe how you work to ensure productive discussion and resolution of issues and how co-workers and colleagues describe your working style.

Henry McClelland	Penny McEachern	
No response	I like to work at an issue until it is resolved, bringing in people as needed, consulting and networking with knowledgeable individuals to better understand the pros and cons and come up with a solution that best suits the parties involved and addresses the issues as raised by all parties.	
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3. Name three priorities for the Township of Lake of Bays and how you will address them.

Henry McClelland	Penny McEachern	
No response	<p>1. Budget – It’s necessary for the workings of the Corporation to maintain a balanced budget. Good budgeting is maintained through accurate work costing and sound projections based on historical evidence and knowledge of the work involved. Reserves must be built in to offset unforeseen problems and issues which will arise. In addition to sound management practices when it comes to budgeting it is also a balance of affordability and the prioritization of the needs of our community and the investments we need to make to improve the quality of life for all.</p> <p>2. Roads – An annual inspection by council of all township roads must be accomplished to assess issues before they become huge and expensive problems. This will also provide necessary input for a long term plan of upkeep. We must prioritize the demand for roads upkeep on an annual basis.</p> <p>3. Variances to the Official Plan – Extensive background work must be performed by knowledgeable staff along with public consultation to arrive at an equitable solution. It is our role to gage all perspectives and recommend the optimal solutions based on the evidence, advice of experts and input the community.</p>	
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4. How do you or will you balance constituents' interests and staff recommendations?

Henry McClelland	Penny McEachern	
No response	The workings of the township are governed by the Municipal Act. It is the work of staff to be cognizant of this and other legislation to protect the constituents of the township. Since we live in a democracy it is council's duty to have public consultations and to listen and act on the issues raised. The job of the council is to weigh the advice of staff with outside interests.	
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5. How will you work with the Lake of Bays Association, its members and other community groups?		
Henry McClelland	Penny McEachern	
No response	I will be available through email for people to raise issues as they see fit. I will also attend community group and association meetings to gain first hand knowledge of local concerns.	
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6. How will you balance economic development and environmental issues?

Henry McClelland	Penny McEachern	
No response	I support economic development and I am proud of the work of local businesses and community groups have done in supporting economic development in our township. Our job is to engage all parties. I also know that one of our greatest assets in our natural environment and in fact it is a major contributor to our quality of life. All economic development initiatives and their value must be gauged in terms of the impact our environment. Allow me to give you an example. The SS Bigwin is a valuable economic development asset to our community and I am proud of the fact that it is a Hybrid Boat and has achieved a bronze rating for a “Green Tourism” approach to its operations.	
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7. What is your position on more clean energy projects in the Township of Lake of Bays?

Henry McClelland	Penny McEachern	
No response	I have always been impressed by the work of the Lake of Bays Renewable Energy Coop (LOBREC) and it is a good example of the Township working with a community group to address the issue of clean energy (Solar panels on the Bayville Arena). Dorset has had a member on the board since the days of developing the project. The township could work with LOBREC to explore the feasibility of other sites. I am also aware the DCPF has explored the option of bringing an electric car vehicle plug in site to Dorset.	
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<p>8. Do you support or oppose the as-proposed development of Langmaid’s Island into 36 lots, and two mainland parking sites? Why?</p>		
<p>Henry McClelland</p>	<p>Penny McEachern</p>	
<p>No response</p>	<p>I have taken a cursory review of the materials concerning the proposed development of Langmaid’s Island and the objections thereto. In short I would support development of the island if fewer lots, i.e., less than 18, were subdivided and if the mainland parking sites/docking facilities were subsequently reduced. I feel this would help minimize the environmental impact on the Lake and still allow the development to go through. Possibly a performance bond could also be required of the developer to ensure all of the requirements would be accomplished and maintained in the future.</p>	
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<p>9. What is your position on funding for the day-to-day operations of the Township of Lake of Bays libraries in Dwight and Baysville? Highlight whether you feel the current funding level is appropriate, and if not, how would you modify it; as well as whether you support Township of Lake of Bays funding to expand the Dwight library?</p>		
<p>Henry McClelland</p>	<p>Penny McEachern</p>	
<p>No response</p>	<p>The libraries are well used in the Township and should be increased to meet future needs and program development by at least 20%. I also support the Dwight Library expansion plans. I am impressed by the amount of volunteer work that has gone into both sites by each community and believe they need our encouragement and support.</p>	
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<p>10. What is your position on hospital reform in Muskoka and do you support maintaining hospitals in each of Bracebridge and Huntsville?</p>		
<p>Henry McClelland</p>	<p>Penny McEachern</p>	
<p>No response</p>	<p>The current population of our Township plus the ever-increasing tourism impact on the health care system demands the maintenance of hospitals in Bracebridge and Huntsville. Reducing the number of hospitals would only increase emergency wait times which even now are too long. I am happy to note that the Task force recommended two acute care sites</p>	
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11. What area(s) of Township of Lake of Bays spending do you think is given too much funding? Why?		
Henry McClelland	Penny McEachern	
No response	The Roads budget seems to be quite high in the area of machine rentals. I would like to see a purchasing/supply requirement in place that would necessitate either a quote from 3 suppliers or a standing agreement set up with a reputable company that would ensure equitable prices even in an emergency situation.	
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12. What area(s) of Township of Lake of Bays spending do you think is given too little funding? Why?		
Henry McClelland	Penny McEachern	
No response	The Health Hub is a valuable asset to the community and I am proud of the way the community has contributed. The township currently is not a major financial contributor. There are many parties involved (provincial - MOHLTC, federal, the AFHT, DCPF and the Township). Municipalities are becoming increasing involved in health care and we need to determine if the Township can and should do more in cooperation with all parties to ensure that the Health Hub is on a stable footing going forward given its growth in primary and preventive care programs meeting the needs of all.	
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13. What ways would you work to increase affordable housing in the Township of Lake of Bays?		
Henry McClelland	Penny McEachern	
No response	<p>Providing affordable housing is such a diverse issue that I feel the Council should strike a separate ways and means committee to investigate the available options. The options could include a shared services agreement with the Township of Algonquin Highlands/Province of Ontario to renovate the Frost Centre; provide vacant lands which would be offered for sale due to non payment of taxes to builders such as Habitat for Humanity; maintain a section of the Township website for citizens to provide input and ideas for implementation; investigate the possibility of freeing up housing provided for indigenous people but not used following that criteria.</p>	
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14. Complete this sentence. Vote for me because ...

Henry McClelland	Penny McEachern	
No response	I feel I have the combination of experience, training and drive to provide a competent contribution to Council. I am now retired and available to work hard for the Township of Lake of Bays.	
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Contact Information		
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