



**2018 Municipal Elections, Candidates' Questionnaire**  
**District Councillor Ridout/McLean**  
**Candidate: Robert Lacroix - ACCLAIMED**

**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 District 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 District Councillor? Highlight work and community experience that has prepared you for this position and the skills you bring to the role.

**Robert Lacroix**

I want to be able to assist people dealing with issues between the Township and District. I was employed with the District of Muskoka for 30+ years. Working in the Public Works department during those years, helped me develop my skills in communication and conflict resolution. I feel well connected to the Lake of Bays area and feel most people are very comfortable approaching me with their issues.

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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.

**Robert Lacroix**

I am patient, methodical and a good listener.

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3. Name three priorities for the Township of Lake of Bays and how you will address them.

**Robert Lacroix**

My priorities are affordable housing, ensuring infrastructure reserves are enhanced, and economic development. I would like to continue debating the reduction of rural lots and new home sizes. Increased funds need to be set aside each year in our reserves in order to maintain and improve all our current facilities. I would encourage Council to look at further development in Baysville due to the water and sewer infrastructure and encourage green industry in all parts of Lake of Bays. A special mention would be our Lake of Bays fire department, it is essential that council maintain a good working relationship with these men and women.

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4. How do you or will you balance constituents' interests and staff recommendations?

**Robert Lacroix**

There is no one patent answer regarding this question. Each situation is different. I weigh the pros and cons and make a decision based on each individual situation.

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5. How will you work with the Lake of Bays Association, its members and other community groups?

**Robert Lacroix**

I have always tried to work with and respect all community groups and associations. I see this term as no different. I feel I have a good working relationship with all parties in the Lake of Bays area.

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6. How will you balance economic development and environmental issues?

**Robert Lacroix**

Our environment is our number one priority since without clean air and water, we will lose our tourist industry. However in saying this we do need to have some development growth. I will do my best to balance the two by listening to all sides in order to come up with the solution that will both protect our environment and sustain our economy.

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7. What is your position on more clean energy projects in the Township of Lake of Bays?		
<b>Robert Lacroix</b>		
I am in favour of green energy projects, especially solar. The Township has many buildings and sites where solar could be developed to benefit Lake of Bays.		
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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><b>Robert Lacroix</b></p>		
<p>I personally feel 36 lots are too many. I believe that a portion of the island should be maintained by the Lake of Bays Heritage Foundation. I also believe that the narrow body of water at the West end of the island needs to be protected.</p>		
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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?

<b>Robert Lacroix</b>		
<p>I feel that the funding for the day to day operations of the libraries could easily be increased. I support this because I believe the libraries are the centres of our communities and have become our cultural and local information centres. Since both branches have seen significant increases in their expanded programmes and membership over the last 5 years, it seems reasonable the funding level should increase to match this enhancement. I would support the Township exploring options to fund the Dwight Library expansion.</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><b>Robert Lacroix</b></p>		
<p>I believe the Township of Lake of Bays and District of Muskoka should both fight to maintain two hospitals in Muskoka.</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?		
<b>Robert Lacroix</b>		
In my opinion there is no area of overspending in the Township of Lake of Bays.		
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12. What area(s) of Township of Lake of Bays spending do you think is given too little funding? Why?		
<b>Robert Lacroix</b>		
<p>The areas I believe have too little spending are the Health Hub, Libraries, reserves and roads. My reasoning for the Health Hub is that it is a vital asset for our communities and to ensure its success, the Township needs to recognize the shortfalls given by the Province. The Libraries in both communities have seen significant increases in usage over the last several years. They are the hubs of our communities and I believe strongly that they need to be recognized as such and supported with appropriate funding. When I was first elected to Council, our reserves were non-existent. Since then the reserves have had modest increases which need to be enhanced in order to prepare properly for the future. In the past council has had to borrow money to repair our road system, this should never happen. Our roads are the most expensive asset the Township owns. In order to maintain them we need to not only budget for road repair and maintenance but to enhance our ditching and brushing.</p>		
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13. What ways would you work to increase affordable housing in the Township of Lake of Bays?		
<b>Robert Lacroix</b>		
Please see question number 3 for my answer on this.		
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14. Complete this sentence. Vote for me because ...		
Robert Lacroix		
Not applicable as I am acclaimed.		
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<b>Robert Lacroix</b>		
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