

1. Having a **vision** for North Bay's social, economic and environmental future is important.

Firstly thank to you the Civic League for the work you have done in organizing and summarizing the results of the survey. For those running for the first time or for re-election who care about what people in the community are concerned about, a survey such as this provides a helpful insight as to the priorities of our community.

Having made it through the recent economic downturn better than most other Northern Ontario communities I believe North Bay is well positioned for slow and stable growth into the near future. A strong public sector and a recovering resource sector provide a strong economic base for our community. At the same time pressure on the Provincial budget with a recent deficit may slow needed funding of social projects like affordable housing and environmental projects like increased recycling subsidies. For example the Phase 3 stewardship program that was started on July 1, 2010, has just been cancelled and will place some of that cost back on Municipalities.

Looking ahead to our community's future I look forward to seeing the waterfront development continue which will in turn encourage continued redevelopment of our downtown core. Investments in infrastructure such as the airside industrial park and the two new hilltop water standpipes will support continued industrial and residential growth in our community.

2. **Communication** on major issues is a responsibility of City Council.
How do you, or will you, consult with your constituents when there is controversy?

During my first term on Council I consider myself to have been easy to reach by phone, email or people simply dropping by the office or talking to me on the street. If there is an issue or particular concern I will ask interested individuals or groups for their comments as often it is in talking with others, in receiving more information, in listening to points both for and against an issue that an informed position can be reached.

"Measure twice and cut once" was a saying of former Premier Bill Davis and I believe still holds very true today.

Council is elected to listen to and serve the needs of our community. The better we listen, the more time we take to build consensus, the more patient we are in working together, the more successful we will be in bringing forward initiatives that are acceptable and lasting in our community.

3. Protecting the **environment** is important e.g. parks, clean air, green space, safe beaches, trails, waste reduction, bike lanes.

As Chair of the Waste Resources Committee for three years I have been pleased to work with a group of community minded volunteers who are committed to reviewing and improving the recycling and landfill policies of the City of North Bay. While improvements to the recycling program have been slow, steady progress has been made over the last four years and I look forward to the opportunity of seeing expanded recycling services be considered for the commercial sector of North Bay in the near future.

I have been supportive of the conservation of green space areas such as Otter Lake, Tweedsmuir Park and the historic La Vase Portages. My own opinion over the last four years is that stronger positions towards conservation of green space areas could have been taken by Council. Certainly residential growth and industrial activity is important in our community but at the same time protection of accessible recreation space and areas of heritage should be strongly protected by a City Council.

The recent and generous donation by the Orsi family of over 100 acres of escarpment green space to North Bay is a wonderful asset to our community and will see many of the escarpment trails protected and expanded.

I also see great trails potential to the south of the City through the designated Provincially Significant Wetlands

in the Booth and Birches Road area.