



KEEP
MALTBY
LAKE
WILD!

Friends of Maltby Lake Watershed Society

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On October 17th, 2014 Friends of Maltby Lake Watershed Society (a non-aligned group of volunteers) posed a question via e-mail to all candidates running in the upcoming municipal election. Please see below for a copy of the question and responses received (*in alphabetical order*) from the 3 Mayoral Candidates.

The Question

In its 2007 Rural Local Area Plan, Saanich recognized the merit of establishing a natural park at Maltby Lake, and noted that acquisition of all or part of the land is dependent upon a source of funding, a willing seller, and the cost of the property. Covenants negotiated with the owners would provide protection for the significant environmental features.

Please outline the plan of action you would take to ensure a natural park legacy at Maltby Lake is realized and comment on your vision and practical approach to developing a balanced relationship between people and nature in Saanich.

Maltby Lake has been described as possibly the only relatively intact freshwater riparian zone in Saanich. It is a wilderness of natural processes, a rare blend of inter-connected eco-systems where at-risk plant and animal species rest undisturbed. As humanity makes more demands on our natural areas, Friends of the Maltby Lake Watershed Society hope our elected representatives will ensure that rare wild areas of land and water, such as Maltby Lake, are protected to maintain nature's life-supporting systems and diversity of eco-systems, to ensure human health and prosperity, and to secure a legacy of resilient, wild nature for future generations.

Thank you for taking time to respond to our question; please send your response to this email address (maltbylakefriends@gmail.com). Friends of the Maltby Lake Watershed Society is a non-aligned group of volunteers committed to the preservation of the lake and surrounding riparian zone. We will pose this question as appropriate at All-Candidates Meetings in Saanich, and responses received by e-mail prior to October 21st will be distributed to our mailing list.

Thank you for caring about Saanich and running for public office.

Jenn POTTER on behalf of
Friends of the Maltby Lake Watershed Society

Responses from the 3 Saanich Mayoral Candidates

On Thu, Oct 30, 2014 at 1:06 PM, Richard Atwell <ratwell123@shaw.ca> wrote:

ATWELL, Richard

Dear Friends of the Maltby Lake Watershed Society,

Thank for sending your question about the future of Maltby Lake to all candidates for Saanich Municipal Council.

Maltby has been on my radar since July when I discussed it at length at Lana Popham's Constituency Office with Samuel Godfrey.

Samuel was very helpful in raising my awareness of this local issue which eventually led to a meeting with Carmel and Woody Thomson at their home to gain a deeper understanding of the history of this property and challenges we are currently facing.

Maltby is perhaps the rarest gem within Saanich. Little known and little disturbed by urban development. I believe that its exotic aquatic life, pristine freshwater and 600 year old Douglas fir must be left in tact.

I am in support of ensuring that Maltby Lake be preserved as a natural area.

I have been in support of the "29% solution" since it was first proposed that would see the 35% property currently owned by TLC split in two.

But what about the other 6%? This is an opportunity for the District of Saanich to "pick up the ball" and ensure that this area remains in its natural state forever through a funding grant.

However, this is the role that Saanich should play, leaving stewardship of this property to an independent body whose sole interest would be the preservation of Maltby Lake.

Richard Atwell

Candidate, Mayor of Saanich

On Sun, Nov 2, 2014 at 8:18 AM, Frank Leonard <frankleonard@ymail.com> wrote:

LEONARD, Frank

noticed I hadn't responded to this, however I have met with two of the owners and we have discussed what options exist

I'd be happy to further the discussion should I be re-elected

Frank Leonard

On Fri, Oct 17, 2014 @ 10:08 PM, David Shebib <shebibd@yahoo.ca> wrote:

SHEBIB, David

nature and mankind is one. A symbiotic relationship . I am for sensible use of all the land . Not just one spot on the floor. I think in order to do that here we have to make friends and amends with the native people . Anything other then that is just more denial .Come meet me here 5090 west saanich road and get introduced to our garden party.