

Healthy, Sustainable and Resilient Waterloo Region

Municipal Election 2018

Dear Candidate,

Climate change, reducing fossil fuel usage, conserving and protecting our water supply, preserving green space, transportation, public policy, and reducing toxic pollutants are just a few of the issues Waterloo Region's environmental groups and NGO's address every day. If elected (and even if you're not!) your active support of our initiatives can play a critical role in creating the kind of community we all want to live in. Here's a little bit about us, and how you can help.



The Grand River Environmental Network (GREN) is the proactive voice for the environment in the Grand River Watershed. GREN members are activists, watchdogs, guardians, stewards and concerned citizens who support each other by sharing information and expertise, foster environmental awareness and literacy, and promote respect for our natural world and our place in it. GREN members prefer to be proactive, rather than reactive, requiring earlier inclusion in the government planning process to share our collective community expertise and experience.

www.gren.ca Contact: John Jackson info@gren.ca



Reep Green Solutions is an environmental charity, serving Waterloo Region and surrounding areas since 1999. We help people live sustainably through home energy efficiency, water conservation, waste reduction and healthy yards services. Our mission is to empower our community with the tools, knowledge and capacity for action to make sustainability the norm. Municipalities support Reep through core funding while we develop, seek funding for and implement community programs. Municipal councilors support homeowners in living more sustainably by advocating for changes which move local climate action forward, like the local emission reduction target of 80% greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and the policies that support it.

www.reepgreen.ca Contact: info@reepgreen.ca



Sustainable Waterloo Region is a dedicated team, motivated by a shared passion for progress towards sustainability across Waterloo Region. Together we are working to foster collaborations that enable local organizations to convert their sustainability interest into action.

Local politicians can help with work we do by keeping the environment top-of-mind among local stakeholders, including municipal government councils, for-profits, not-for-profits, MUSH sector members and other members of the business community. We ask for support in areas such as the creation of municipal infrastructure for electric vehicles, supporting the development of green buildings, and incentives for sustainable business practices.

www.sustainablewaterlooregion.ca Contact: Lisa Chapman lisa.chapman@sustainablewr.ca



Charitable Research Reserve

The **rare Charitable Research Reserve** is a community driven 900+ acre urban land trust and environmental institute in Waterloo Region/Wellington, home to an incredible array of flora and fauna, with species that are ranked significant or at risk regionally, provincially, nationally and even globally. Since inception, **rare** has taken care of the land on behalf of the community through the use of Western tools in conservation, research and education. As **rare** becomes engaged in reconciliation with the Indigenous Peoples of Turtle Island

(North America), these pillars will equally include and value Indigenous ways of knowing and being — to become three strands of a strong braid. Together we will steward these lands with respect for generations past, present and those yet to come, intact in perpetuity with trees more than 250 years old, 24 habitat types, and 6 of 8 pre-settlement landscapes. Political support is essential for both funding and as an endorsement of the importance of protecting our natural environment.

www.raresites.org Contact: **Stephanie Sobek-Swant** stephanie.sobek-swant@raresites.org



Hold the Line is a small 'nonprofit-that-could' made up of artists, community builders, sustainability advocates, and Waterloo Region enthusiasts. We love the farms, towns, and natural spaces that make up our countryside, and the walkable shops and restaurants that make our downtown cores exciting places to work and play.

Our goal is to plan fun events and engagement opportunities that celebrate the Region of Waterloo's Countryside Line and smart growth planning policies that protect our rural lands from the pressures of urban sprawl. The Countryside Line is innovative, bold, and impactful. Let's celebrate it!

www.holdthelinewr.org/ Contact: **connect@holdthelinewr.org**



Alternatives Journal is Canada's oldest environmental media organization. We've been documenting the environmental movement in Canada since our inception in 1971. Our mandate is to promote an understanding of "environment" in the broadest sense of the word, including social and political dimensions, and stimulate dialogue about environmental issues – as well as to provide critical and informed analysis and provide publishing opportunities for Canadians. AJ's editorial mission is to be "Canada's Environmental Voice" by providing a forum for civilized debate and, when appropriate, to advocate for positive and sustainable solutions. Walking the line between an accessible consumer magazine and an academic journal, our articles are carefully edited by an experienced editorial team and are vigorously fact-checked. AJ participates in and supports a variety of events, projects and campaigns. Our archives also provide a wealth of lessons learned over 45+ years of the Canadian environmental movement.

www.alternativesjournal.ca/ Contact: **marcia@alternativesjournal.ca**



WREN
Waterloo Region Environment Network

Waterloo Region Environmental Network (WREN) is a network of 175+ environmental organizations and individual affiliates around Waterloo Region working towards a shared vision of collaboration, community and sustainability. WREN provides a framework for its members to foster connections and follow through on working together via networking events, shared resources and a digital space to host collective outcomes.

Founded by a collective of organizations in 2012, WREN has grown through a series of events and collaborations that have helped ignite momentum towards a cohesive local environmental cluster. Green Rocket has curated and evolved WREN since 2012, working with

network members and community partners.

www.wrenvironetwork.ca Contact: **Stacey Danckert** sdanckert@wrenvironetwork.ca