

Norfolk Federation of Ag

From: "Charlie & Diane Luke" <cluke@kwic.com>
To: "Norfolk Federation of Agriculture" <nfa@kwic.com>
Sent: October 22, 2006 5:12 PM
Subject: RE: Questions for Norfolk Council Candidates

Thanks Sheila for the opportunity to respond to these questions.

1. I am running again for office because I like to be part of the decision making process in my community/County. I enjoy this type of work very much.
2. It is obvious when you tour the entire County that we are still after all these years, a rural agricultural County. Agriculture has a huge impact on the County as we have farmers who grow quality products and create employment and tax base for all to benefit.
3. The impact from an economic perspective (of agriculture), is huge to Norfolk County.
4. I have always put the land use for agriculture as a #1 priority.
5. I believe this council has shown that agriculture fits into our economic dev. Priorities. It is showcased in our brochures and land use again has been protected in our new official plan of the County.
6. I have stated many times at the council chamber that value added activities must be encouraged and accepted as new ways to help keep farms viable.
7. I accept the Province's authority in regulating manure and other nutrient sources, either applied or generated.
8. This is a tough one. I think you mean that if, perhaps, we were to build say, a new arena, should farm land be exempt from the taxes needed to run and maintain that arena?....If that is what this question is asking, then I would say that I am not in favor of such a by-law. To keep farmers viable, I think the rate at which viable farmland is taxed should and can be adjusted to help. The system we use to raise dollars to run our municipalities is based on land value, and this one factor alone.....all landowners are expected to share the cost, but at different taxation rates.....obviously industry and Commercial pay at a higher rate than people who own residential land or farm land.
9. I would encourage value-added enterprises through land zoning applications, look at re-writing the uses in the agriculture zone in our comprehensive zoning by-laws and look at petitioning the Province to recognize that these activities are indeed a part of the farmer's livelihood and therefore should be taxed a lower rate. I would be willing to look at this situation closely and do what I could to help make this change possible. Farmers need incentives to pursue value added activities.
10. Development charges do apply in this, and probably all municipalities, for agriculture structures. And they should, as these fees help defer costs of staff time....a form of user fee if you will. If requested Council could consider setting up lesser fees for farm related buildings.
11. The issues are...irrigation – water drawing permits were imposed by the province.....the other key issue is well head protection.
12. First of all I believe that everyone has to be aware of our well heads, where they are located, why they are there and what they do. I believe that every stakeholder plays a role in making sure that our well heads are protected. I'm not sure if I would say that municipalities need to "take control" of the 100 meter area around the well heads. Also, it would make sense to me that any new wells should be leased from the landowner, similar to say a gas well, or easement agreement.
13. By making sure that any restrictions on these lands does not impede in the farmer's right to properly farm the land.
14. I am not aware of any municipal funding at this time. I do know that farm land (excluding the residence) is taxed at 25% of the market value.
15. There are programs at our health and social services department, for example, that funded by the province, operated by the municipality, and are accessible to address all family needs, both rural and urban.

From: Norfolk Federation of Agriculture [mailto:nfa@kwic.com]

Sent: 12 October 2006 18:58

To: Doug Brunton; Gordon Woods; Geoff Dew; John Wells; Edward Doerksen; John Kinnear; Chris Thomas; Al Harrington; Bob Thompson; Heidi Van Dyk; Russell Colebrook; Charlie Luke; Jim Oliver; Roger Geysens; Michael Columbus; John Hunt; Ede Pos; Bill Culver; Dean Morrison

Subject: Questions for Norfolk Council Candidates

October 12, 2006

Dear Municipal Candidate:

Local farmers are looking to our political leaders to work with us and develop conditions that attract investment and create a favourable economic setting in rural Ontario. In order to sustain vibrant communities and a vibrant agricultural industry, we want you to consider the benefits or the damage your decisions can create for the Ontario farmer and rural communities when setting policies, developing programs and making decisions.

Farmers and the communities they live in require your attention and serious reinvestment.

The farm community contributes to the local and provincial economy, the rural landscape and the health and safety of our citizens. The work of farmers and related agricultural activities employ many people in our community. This work contributes to the economy of our municipality and the province of Ontario every year. The farmers' investment and hard work on environmental improvements and food safety benefit all of the citizens of our municipality, from sustaining water quality to traceability programs that ensure safe food.

Ontario's farm strength is evident in the links that connect farms to our fellow citizens and the local economy. Our residents pay a smaller fraction of their incomes for food than others in the developed world.

The work of farmers makes this possible.

The Norfolk Federation of Agriculture is a general farm policy organization and through the Ontario Federation of Agriculture represents 38,000 individual farmers and over 36 commodity organizations in Ontario. OFA policies are developed and approved by our membership through our county federations and commodity board representatives.

We want you to feel free to call on us for advice and assistance when you are making decisions that affect farmers in our municipality.

Please find attached several questions that we would like you to answer and return to us. The questions are attached in both Word and PDF version in case one won't open. At a recent Board meeting, a decision was made that your plates were already full with All Candidates Meetings. Therefore, we have compiled a list of questions for you to answer at your leisure. If you would please return them to the Norfolk Federation of Agriculture by October 27th, 2006, at the very latest it would be greatly appreciated. The questions and answers will be posted on

our website, local papers and on our local radio station, for our local members and the public.

We appreciate your time and assistance with this matter, and look forward to hearing from you.
Happy campaigning and good luck!

Yours in Agriculture,

Sheila White, Secretary ~ Treasurer ~ Website Co-Ordinator

Norfolk Federation of Agriculture

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Norfolk Federation of Ag

From: "Robert Thompson" <patrick@execulink.com>
To: <nfa@kwic.com>
Sent: October 24, 2006 10:47 AM
Subject: election questions

Dear Sheila

Although I feel that the agriculture sector is a significant contributor to the welfare of Norfolk County and I will support any measures that Council adopts to further the viability of the agricultural community, I am UNABLE TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS because I do not feel that I have sufficient knowledge to answer the questions in an intelligent manner.

Sorry

BOB THOMPSON

Questions for Norfolk Council Candidates

Please feel free to type your answers below the questions!

- Why are you running for office?
- My profile is on the Norfolk County website. However, I feel based on my 30+ years of municipal experience as the former Director of Public Works that I have ample experience and knowledge to guide Council.

- Describe the impact of agriculture in your local area.
- In Ward 5 (Town of Simcoe) there are minimal agricultural zones compared to other Wards. It does however have a major impact economically within the Town of Simcoe.

- Describe the economic impact of agricultural business in your area.
- Currently I am employed in the agricultural sector. I am involved in North American sales for a local agricultural business. Based on my experiences there is no doubt agriculture has a **major** economic impact in Norfolk County.

- What priority do you place on agricultural land use issues?
- The priority is to maintain agricultural lands based on the various soil classes determined by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. Norfolk Council, I believe, from my experience has tried to monitor all planning issues as it relates to agricultural lands so as to preserve and enhance the agricultural community. Severances and zoning applications applicable to farm lands must be reviewed but not restricted on site specific areas and all applications must be judged on their own merits. Major consideration must be given to ground water and well availability along with the environmental issues related to septic systems.

- Where does agriculture fit into the economic development priorities for the municipality/region?
- I am not familiar with the Economic Development Department's priorities for Norfolk County. I believe that agriculture should be very high on the list as it is a major component of our county.

- What is your position on the development of on-farm, value-added activities?
- I believe this is a fundamental part of farm diversification and should be reviewed on an individual basis.

- Do you recognize the authority of the province in regulating manure and other nutrient sources either generated or applied in your municipality?

- Yes, I recognize the authority of the Province and guidelines that are established. Providing that, the County and the local agricultural community should be involved in the process.
- Are you willing to support a by-law to exempt farm lands from taxation for expenditures on municipal services not applicable to farm lands?
- Farm lands are currently, to my understanding, taxed at a lower mill rate than the residential portion of your farm (1 acre off the farm). There are services to both urban and rural areas which may differ for which we all pay.
- How do you propose to encourage on-farm, value-added agricultural enterprises and address the excessive property taxes currently imposed on these activities?
- One of my positions is that I feel it is necessary to have taxes reduced across the County. I understand that the taxes of many commercial and/or industrial business are excessive and that makes it difficult for them to continue in business. The same can be said for all property taxes, including agricultural and residential.
- Do you know if development charges apply to agricultural structures in this municipality? If development charges do apply, describe how you would support standardizing the application of development charges to prevent inequitable treatment.
- I am unaware of any development charges applicable to agricultural structures in this County. The only development charges that I am aware of apply to residential properties and residential severance applications.
- What are the key water management issues in the area?
- The key issues are: water taking permits, well head protection (these two apply to farming). As far as the urban area, the production of potable water and transportation of potable water due to infrastructure problems continue to be a high priority.
- Do you support the need for municipalities to 'take control' of the area immediately adjacent (e.g. 100 meters) to a wellhead or surface water intake, by either purchasing or leasing the land?
- Certainly if an individual is restricted in the operation of their farm enterprise to the point where it has a major impact, then there should be some form of compensation.
- How will you ensure that individual's owning property near municipal well head will not be negatively impacted?
- As stated in the previous question, compensation needs to be addressed.

- What funding is available to an individual farm business wishing to improve existing practices? What assistance will the municipality provide?
- When I was employed with the municipality I was responsible for the administration of the Farm Tile Drainage Act and the Municipal Drainage Act applicable to farmlands. Most financial assistance programs to farming are provincially and federally regulated.

- How are municipal, provincial, and federal programs co-ordinated at the local level to address farm and rural family needs?
- Provincial and Federal programs are sometimes administered by the local municipality.

Doug Brunton, Ward 5

AL HARRINGTON



Biography

- Born and raised in Simcoe.
- Married to Sandy for 44 years.
- Father of Chris, Kelly & Derek.
- Graduate of Simcoe Composite School, Ontario Teachers' College and University of Western Ontario.
- Retail Sporting Goods owner from 1973-1996.
- Classroom teacher from 1965-1972 & 1991-2001.
- Insurance Broker from 2001-present.
- Member of Royal Canadian Legion Branch #79
- Former local coach and hockey player.
- Former Kinsman and Rotarian.
- Enjoy biking, golf and working out.

Why Are You Running For Office?

- To ensure that your tax dollars are spent wisely.
- To encourage greater economic growth and development in Norfolk.
- To promote downtown renewal and development.
- To encourage the development of a long-term vision for Norfolk.
- To be a part of decision making that is done right the first time.
- To bring the kind of positive change that is wanted by voters.
- I believe that Norfolk County is the best place to live, work and raise a family.
- I have the time and will work full-time on council.

*“To sit on council is a position of trust.
If elected, I will maintain that trust that
you have placed in me by representing
you to the best of my ability”*

Questions for Norfolk Council Candidates

Please feel free to type your answers below the questions!

- 1 Why are you running for office?
- 2 Ensure that tax dollars are spent wisely. Encourage economic and agricultural diversification and growth. To bring positive change and a long term vision to Norfolk.

- 3 Describe the impact of agriculture in your local area.
- 4 Agriculture drives our economy in Norfolk.
- 5

- 5 Describe the economic impact of agricultural business in your area.
- 6 The agricultural businesses provide about 65% of the total income in Norfolk. The agricultural industry does not just include the farms. The spin offs to accountants, banks, farm machine providers and other businesses is immense .

- 7 What priority do you place on agricultural land use issues?
- 8 To keep this economic engine running, the land use issues are very important. Valuable farm land resources can not be squandered for some residential developments. Areas within some of the towns and villages should be redeveloped to save prime farm land. Any land use that has a negative impact on water and water sources must be consider very carefully.
- 9 Where does agriculture fit into the economic development priorities for the municipality/region?
- 10 I don't no the answer to this question. With the value of the industry to the county, I feel that the agricultural business and the county should work in a partnership with each other. There is too much at stake to NOT have a positive relationship.

- 11 What is your position on the development of on-farm, value-added activities?
- 12 I think that on-farm, value-added activities are very important activities for the many spin-offs that occur. I think that when an operation becomes such a size, there may come a time when it has to be determined whether it is agricultural in nature or whether it is an industrial process that would be in a different category than agricultural.

- 13 Do you recognize the authority of the province in regulating manure and other nutrient sources either generated or applied in your municipality?
- 14 I feel that the province has to establish certain guidelines. Some guidelines need to be established that protect all concerned. Industry has guidelines with respect to employee safe. Similarly, the environment needs to have some form of protection to protect against unscrupulous situations. The Nutrient Management Act seems to speak to this issue.

- 15 Are you willing to support a by-law to exempt farm lands from taxation for expenditures on municipal services not applicable to farm lands?
- 16 I would have trouble supporting a by-law such as this with what I know

- today. I would have to be educated as to the real benefits that it would have and the detrimental effect that it might have. I no longer have children in school or playing sports locally therefore should I pay for these facilities?
- 17 How do you propose to encourage on-farm, value-added agricultural enterprises and address the excessive property taxes currently imposed on these activities?
 - 18 I think that the county can advertise the great values of the products produced on the farms and encourage initiatives for the various activities of the agricultural entrepreneurs. It may be that there is a fine line between what is agricultural and what is commercial and if there are excessive taxes when adjustments will need to be made..
 - 19 Do you know if development charges apply to agricultural structures in this municipality? If development charges do apply, describe how you would support standardizing the application of development charges to prevent inequitable treatment.
 - 20 Only recently I learned that there may varying developmental charges that seem to apply to different types of structures. One rate for industry and another rate for agriculture. The inequity of the charges seemed most unfair. I certainly would like address this issue if elected.
 - 21 What are the key water management issues in the area?
 - 22 I am hearing from some sources that our quality and quantity of water is quickly diminishing and that Simcoe may run into problems down the road. I also hear in certain areas there is an abundance of quality water with easy access. It is important for the county to insure that there is sufficient quality and quantity water for the agricultural community and the residential community.
 - 23 Do you support the need for municipalities to 'take control' of the area immediately adjacent (e.g. 100 meters) to a wellhead or surface water intake, by either purchasing or leasing the land?
 - 24 I believe that this or a similar matter is before the OMB. I may not have to make a choice. I feel that county has to recognize that the agricultural community is the steward of the land. I think that the county needs to reward the farmer for his/her stewardship of the land that is adjacent to a wellhead or a surface area intakes. If a certain area on a farm provides a good source of water and the county needs this source then an agreement should be set up that is reasonable to all concerned and payment is made to the owner/ steward.
 - 25 How will you ensure that individual's owning property near municipal well head will not be negatively impacted? I answered this above.
 - 26 27 What funding is available to an individual farm business wishing to improve existing practices? What assistance will the municipality provide? I do not have enough knowledge to answer this question.

27

29 How are municipal, provincial, and federal programs co-ordinated at the local level to address farm and rural family needs?

30 I do not know what the programs are. This is something I would need to learn about.

Al Harrington.

Questions for Norfolk Council Candidates

Please feel free to type your answers below the questions!

- Why are you running for office?
- **I believe that Norfolk is on the threshold of amazing industrial and commercial expansion as not seen since just after World War 2. I believe that I have the experience and vision to help guide Norfolk through these times without having Norfolk sacrifice what has been established over the years.**
- **I am committed to work, to serve and to listen.**

- Describe the impact of agriculture in your local area.
- **Farms occupy almost 300 000 acres of land and almost 225 000 of those acres are in crops.**

- Describe the economic impact of agricultural business in your area.
- **The economic impact is enormous. For example, over \$100 million worth of tobacco is grown. Agriculture business is a major employer and not to mention the spin off businesses which exist .**

- What priority do you place on agricultural land use issues?
- **I believe this is a high priority.**

- Where does agriculture fit into the economic development priorities for the municipality/region?
- **I would hope very close to the top.**

- What is your position on the development of on-farm, value-added activities?
- **I support it.**

- Do you recognize the authority of the province in regulating manure and other nutrient sources either generated or applied in your municipality?
- **Yes**

- Are you willing to support a by-law to exempt farm lands from taxation for expenditures on municipal services not applicable to farm lands?
- **I would need to study the recommendation to determine how much this initiative would cost.**

- How do you propose to encourage on-farm, value-added agricultural enterprises and address the excessive property taxes currently imposed on these activities?
- **Once again I would have to study the impact that this plan would have.**

- What are the key water management issues in the area? **Safe drinking water and Port Dover and Port Rowan sewage treatment facilities,**

- Do you support the need for municipalities to 'take control' of the area immediately adjacent (e.g. 100 meters) to a wellhead or surface water intake, by either purchasing or leasing the land?
- **Take control yes but not necessarily through purchase or lease.**
- How will you ensure that individual's owning property near municipal well head will not be negatively impacted?
- **Through legislation.**

Thank you for this opportunity.

John Kinnear

Questions for Norfolk Council Candidates

Please feel free to type your answers below the questions!

- Why are you running for office?
- **I'm running for office because I want to serve my community.**

- Describe the impact of agriculture in your local area.
- **Norfolk is a rural community. Despite that a large percentage of residences are non-farmers, agriculture has been and is a vital part of Norfolk County. Agriculture has provided employment opportunities for local residences and has serviced the county with a large variety of agricultural products from grains, vegetables, to meats.**
- **As tobacco production shrinks away, many farmers have been innovative in producing other crops such as peanuts, ginseng, and other diverse crops. Such innovativeness makes agriculture all that more important to an agricultural community such as Norfolk County**

- Describe the economic impact of agricultural business in your area.
- **The impact of farming to those of Ward 5 is just as important as it is in other wards. Agricultural businesses provide employment, products at the "Farmer's Market", products at the Meat Packaging outlets, and a cost effectiveness for the local consumer.**
- **I prefer to buy local agricultural produce and products over what is being sold in the grocery stores that come from a wholesaler. What ever I can get locally I do. I enjoy the freshness and the availability of agricultural products. I know that what I buy from the local farm community would be the same thing that these individuals would serve to their families and friends.**

- What priority do you place on agricultural land use issues?
- **Agricultural land use is a topic that carries many concerns on both sides of the issue. At present there are policies in place by the Provincial Government that demands local Official Plans on land use and development be harmonized with provincial policies. These may be in conflict and therefore there needs to be an Advisory Committee that is active with municipalities in designing and establishing an Official Plan for agricultural land use issues on a continual basis and not just when a plan comes up for review or is established.**

- Where does agriculture fit into the economic development priorities for the municipality/region?
- **In Norfolk County, agriculture is and will remain the main economic focus of the community. As a result it is important that the farmers are able to present their concerns to the Municipal Council through a board or committee such as an Agricultural Advisory Committee. It is through co-operative participation that will enable Norfolk County to best establish by-laws and economic development of farms that will continue to serve the county.**

- **Establishing by-laws that hinder agricultural development of farms is just as important to the farmers as it is to industry and business. It is important to allow local farmers the ability to develop and increase their production output. Municipal Official Plans and zoning by-laws must reflect the needs of agriculture in the area.**
- What is your position on the development of on-farm, value-added activities?
- **Farming is a business. It is important that people realize that farming is not just a job but a business that needs to be protected and allowed to develop and expand.**
- **On-farm, value-added activities can only enhance the income of the local farming community and the individual farmer, whether through a co-operative, individual initiative or a group of farmers that has come together for such a project.**
- **An Agricultural Advisory Committee can be most productive in areas such as this as it could assist the farmer in the marketing and packaging of his product and also represent the farmer at the municipal level when dealing with building plans, by-laws, and other municipal concerns.**
- Do you recognize the authority of the province in regulating manure and other nutrient sources either generated or applied in your municipality?
- **Provincial regulations take precedent over Municipal by-law creation. The Municipality is under the jurisdiction of the Provincial government and is an arm of that government. That does not mean that the Municipality is the rubber stamp of the Province, but rather that the Municipality is to act in the confines that have been established by Provincial guidelines and policies.**
- **In this case, Canada as well as the Ontario governments has stringent policies in place that determine the use of manure and other chemicals in the soil. These policies are based on science and continual testing of products and therefore meet the demands of society.**
- **Municipalities may introduce by-laws that concern the use of chemicals and other nutrients, but at the same time the policies established by the Federal and Provincial Governments must be recognized as taking precedent over Municipal by-laws.**
- **Once more I would recommend that co-operation between the Municipal government and an Agricultural Advisory Committee would be far more beneficial to all parties concern in developing any future policy and/or by-law that would add further regulations.**

- Are you willing to support a by-law to exempt farm lands from taxation for expenditures on municipal services not applicable to farm lands?
- **Like everyone else in Canada, people are being taxed to the point where nearly 66% of their total income goes to some sort of tax. It is time for everyone to get a tax break. I am willing to assist the farmers in a support via by-law to exempt farm lands from taxation where Municipal services are not applicable to those farm lands.**
- **There is no reason why farm land should be taxed if there are no services available or applicable.**
- **Farmers should not be taxed as if they are commercial or industrial properties. When a farmer harvests his crops, he must also prepare his crop for market. That is part of doing agriculture business.**
- **The only way I could justify any farm being taxed with a commercial tax or industrial tax is if that farmer does not produce a crop of any kind, but prepares and packages products for market from other sources brought to his location.**

- How do you propose to encourage on-farm, value-added agricultural enterprises and address the excessive property taxes currently imposed on these activities?
- **If the farmer is producing a crop or livestock that is being grown or raised by the farmer and then processed on location as a value-added agricultural enterprise, property taxes need to be reduced so that the farmer is able to make an income. If value-added agriculture needs (ie buildings used for storage and production) is being taxed, any income from that same enterprise is also taxed, which means that the farmer is being taxed to a point where future innovations are discouraged rather than encouraged. Why should a farmer enhance his farm output if he is going to be taxed for it?**
- **I would support any effort by farmers to seek exemptions from tax burdens where ever possible.**
- **A Municipal government, working in co-operation with an Agricultural Advisory Committee could bring about a fare and understandable taxing policy that would not bring an undo burden onto the farmer trying to make a fare living.**

- Do you know if development charges apply to agricultural structures in this municipality? If development charges do apply, describe how you would support standardizing the application of development charges to prevent inequitable treatment.
- **I personally do not know if Norfolk charges such a tax or development charges. (It is still a tax no matter how you look at it.) It would be important to seek out a standardized system, but this can only be done if the Association of Municipalities can collectively agree on a system and then make application to the Provincial**

- Government to create legislation that would implement such a standardized tax.**
- **Personally I do not believe that a development charge should be applied to any farm structures or buildings. If such a practice is present in Norfolk; I would make application that this practice be stopped.**
 - What are the key water management issues in the area?
 - **Like any other Municipality regarding water management, clean potable water is the main issue. How these issues are dealt with and who looks after water management are just as important.**
 - **Municipalities must comply with provincial standards, regulations, and legislations as directed by the Provincial Government. The main concern is clean water. How the Municipality obtains that will have to be considered when the time comes.**
 - **The Clean Water Act will change a number of things, but the issues are still the same; safe potable water for personal consumption. How the end result will be achieved will depend on the act and co-operation between the land owner and the Municipality.**
 - Do you support the need for municipalities to 'take control' of the area immediately adjacent (e.g. 100 meters) to a wellhead or surface water intake, by either purchasing or leasing the land?
 - **I do support the need for municipalities to 'take control' of areas immediately adjacent to wellhead or surface water intake. I further support the idea of leasing the land from the individual rather than purchasing the land outright. Leasing would provide an added income to the individual that would supplement the person's total income.**
 - How will you ensure that individual's owning property near municipal well head will not be negatively impacted?
 - **Again, without final knowledge of what is contained in the Clean Water Act, it will be difficult to know how such legislation is going to actually impact the property owner.**
 - **If the act does present a negative impact on the property owner, then there needs to be consultation with the owner to understand the impact and come to a conclusion that can be addressed properly.**
 - **If the Municipality can take action on its' own to resolve the issue, then I believe it is wise for the Municipality to take the necessary actions and/or make the necessary by-laws.**

- What funding is available to an individual farm business wishing to improve existing practices? What assistance will the municipality provide?
- **Until details are known in the act and what funding is provided to the farmer or individual through the act, it will be difficult at this time to provide a detailed plan for financial assistance if any.**
- **What can be considered though is that if the municipality can assist the individual in procuring assistance through the act, then I believe that this might be considered for now. At least until such details are known about the act and the financial assistance that might be provided through the act by the Government of Ontario.**

- How are municipal, provincial, and federal programs co-ordinated at the local level to address farm and rural family needs?
- **Each family is different and unique in their own right. The same is true with rural communities in Ontario and Norfolk County is no different. Both the federal and the provincial governments have downloaded programs onto the municipalities without financial support or compensation.**
- **At the same time they have also past legislation that makes the municipality responsible for the quality of day care resources, licensing day care facilities, and more. As a result it is difficult to co-ordinate services except through the channels that have already been established.**
- **The municipality should continue to serve the needs of the community, understanding the community's different unique problems and qualities. As a result, the Municipality can be the vehicle by which programs can be co-ordinated that meet the needs of the local farmer and their families.**
- **Information about services and the kinds of services should be made available to the rural family that same as urban center families.**
- **In recognizing the distances of rural families to an urban center, the Municipality should consider purchasing abandoned schools and using these buildings as recreation and day care centers where needed.**

Thank you for this questionnaire as it has been very educational for myself.

I hope I can be of service to the rural community when elected to council even in Ward 5.

Thank you

Ed Doerksen.