



## 2022 Election Questionnaire

Candidate Name: Irene McConkey

1. Do you support waterfront owners having the legal right to protect their properties from erosion, as long as the requirements of Development Permit Area (DPA1) are met?

Yes             No

Comments: Foreshore erosion resulting from climate change will impact waterfront owners and I will respect any legal rights they have to protect their properties.

2. During the OCP process, there has been discussion of the “Green Shores” approach to prevent erosion of the waterfront. While Green Shores may have value in certain favourable conditions, it is not technically or economically feasible on most waterfront properties in North Saanich. If Green Shores is included in the new OCP, will you commit to seeing it is presented as an option, rather than a requirement?

Yes             No

Comments: Green Shores can be valuable in the right areas but may not be feasible in every circumstance. Collaboration with property owners who are impacted is a must.

3. Currently almost all the residential properties on the waterfront in North Saanich are blanket zoned to a very restrictive M6, which we feel is unwarranted for certain properties in view of recent studies and mapping. Would you consider rezoning from M6 to a less restrictive M5 for waterfront properties which have moderate, low, or very low overall ecological rating as identified by up-to-date mapping?

Yes             No

Comments: Requests for rezoning are on a case by case basis at the owner’s request. I will respect the request of any property owner, and acknowledge the concern with ecological rating.

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Property Responsibility On the Waterfront

4. Waterfront owners feel the current OCP contains language that discourages development of any kind within the DPA1 15-meter setback. In keeping with the 2008 Marine Task Force Report recommendations, would you support more flexible language in the new OCP to allow for structures such as decks, docks, and seawalls, as long as such development would not cause environmental harm?

Yes             No

Comments: Key element here would be “not cause environmental harm”. That would include the property in question in addition to neighbouring properties.

5. Waterfront owners are concerned that DPA1 contains restrictions that are not only unfair but result in unintended consequences. For example, restrictions in the 15-meter setback lead to neglect and a buildup of combustible material creating a “wildfire fuse” along the waterfront. Would you support a change in OCP, zoning and bylaw language which allows for flexibility and supports the waterfront owner as wanting to be part of the solution of waterfront protection and not treated as part of the problem?

Yes             No

Comments: Wildfire is a risk that must be addressed, not only for waterfront owners but for the all the high risk areas in North Saanich.

6. For nearly a decade, waterfront owners have been acutely aware of the potential impacts of sea level rise. Studies conducted by the District of North Saanich led to the development of two draft bylaws that would have negatively affected waterfront properties. Would you support having a higher order of government take the lead on this issue?

Yes             No

Comments: With climate change and sea level rise it is imperative that the District work collaboratively with waterfront owners and engage other levels of government to address this issue.



Property Responsibility On the Waterfront

7. If over the course of your term, Council considers adopting bylaws or changing any regulations or zoning requirements affecting waterfront properties, will you commit to ensuring that every waterfront owner is notified – individually – with a letter outlining the proposed changes and inviting participation in a true consultation process?

Yes

No

Comments: I will work from day one to get the District to communicate more openly and honestly with all residents of North Saanich in order to have a truly consultative process.