

August 23, 2019

To: Elizabeth May, Green Party of Canada, David Busch, Conservative Party of Canada, Ryan Windsor, Liberal Party of Canada, Sabine Singh, New Democratic Party

Re: 2019 Federal Election – All-Candidate Questionnaire

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to all the candidates in the forthcoming federal election who are seeking to become our Member of Parliament. You have offered to take on a very important task on behalf of your fellow citizens in Saanich-Gulf Islands.

PROW is a non-profit association that was formed in 2008 and registered under the BC Societies Act in 2011 to represent more than 700 private waterfront property owners in North Saanich. Our mission is “to inform the community about issues affecting waterfront properties.”

To this end we have prepared the attached five-part questionnaire about current waterfront issues and are requesting responses from all candidates.

We plan to distribute the questionnaire, with a compilation of your answers, to our membership for their review. We will also post your responses on our website: [www.prow.ca](http://www.prow.ca)

Please send your response to [NSProw700@gmail.com](mailto:NSProw700@gmail.com) by 4 pm on Friday September 27.

Thank you on behalf of PROW

David Tonken  
President

## **PROW 2019 All-Candidate Questionnaire**

**Issue 1:** Currently the Tulista boat launch is the only public facility serving the entire north end of the Saanich Peninsula. This is heavily used and subject to high winds and heavy seas from the east which often pose safety issues. Property on Queen Mary Bay in North Saanich was recently listed for sale and, as an extension to the Gulf Islands National Park, would provide a protected location for a boat launch.

**Q1:** If elected, how would you advance the proposal to acquire the Queen Mary Bay property, expand the Gulf Islands National Park, and develop a public boat launch on the property?

**Issue 2:** Sea Level Rise is a concern to all coastal communities. In particular, waterfront property owners are concerned about increasing erosion and flooding caused by more powerful and more frequent storm surges.

**Q2:** If elected, how would you move forward to see federal resources deployed to protect coastal communities from erosion and flooding?

**Issue 3:** The BC Supreme Court recently upheld the riparian rights of property owners in the Gulf Islands to protect their waterfront property from erosion.

**Q3:** Do you support the riparian rights of waterfront owners to protect their property from erosion with seawalls?

**Issue 4:** Archaeological remains are frequently found on private property near the ocean. Under current regulations, the investigation of such a discovery is at the expense of the property owner. If our history is of value to our society at large, the costs should be borne by society at large – by government, not the individual.

**Q 4:** Do you support the idea of some level of government paying for the cost of carrying out archaeological investigations, rather than the individual property owner?

**Issue 5:** Our members will be evaluating candidates in the upcoming election based on their knowledge of local waterfront issues.

**Q5:** What do you see as the most important waterfront issues facing Saanich-Gulf Islands, and if you are elected as our MP, why are you most suited to deal with them?