Municipal Election 2018 Candidate Animal Welfare Survey

Conducted by Windsor/Essex County Humane Society (WECHS)

Tecumseh

Candidate Name
by Position Sought*
*only those candidates who participated in the survey are listed

Q1: Do you see animal welfare as an issue the municipal government should care about?

Q2: Do you support municipal vouchers to assist resident with spaying and neutering free-roaming (feral, unowned) cats?

Q3: Do you support municipal vouchers to assist low-income residents with spaying and neutering their own pet cats with a goal of reducing the future free-roaming cat problem?

Q4: Do you support municipal by laws that limit the time that dogs can be tethered/unattended outdoors?

Q5: Do you support municipal by laws that limit the time dogs can be left outdoors via tiedown?

Q6: Do you believe that municipality laws should set limits on the number of animals people can have? (in all the wards)

Q7: Do you believe that municipal by laws should prohibit the sale of dogs and cats, requiring stores to work with shelters and rescues to rehome adoptable animals instead of

Q8: Do you support municipal by laws that restrict the ownership of certain breeds of dogs?

Q9: Do you support municipal by laws that restrict the ownership of "exotic" pets?

Q10: Do you support allowing residents in urban areas to have backyard chickens?

Q11: Do you support municipal by laws allowing the owner of a vehicle used to abandon an animal to be ticketed for abandonment, even if they are not driving the vehicle?

Q12: If municipalities don't restrict cats from being at large, they are not mandated to provide residents with a place to bring stray cats, although many do so voluntarily as a service their residents want. Do you believe that your municipality should provide residents with a place to bring stray cats?

County Candidates Only - Q13: As noted in Q12, many municipalities are not legally mandated to provide animal control services for animals other than dogs. That means, for example, that while your municipal animal control provider would pick up a stray dot hit by a care on public property, most would not pick up an injured stray cat or raccoon. Do you believe that your Town's animal control provider should be required to pick up sick or injured stray cats at wildlife on public property?

Q14: Do you support municipal by laws that restrict performances of exotic animals (i.e. circuses)?

Q15: Do you support municipal by laws that prevent drivers from driving with a dog loose in the back of a pickup truck?

Q16: Do you support municipal by laws that prohibit residents from causing or permitting distress (including mental distress) to their pets?

Q17: Why should resident who care about animals vote for you?

COUNCILLOR by WARD

WARD 1

Joe Bachetti

Leo Demarco

COUNCILLOR by WARD

WARD 1

Andrew Dowie

WARD 2

Tania Jobin

Rick "Ricci" Tonial

WARD 3

Brian Houston

Michael Roussel

Additional Comments by Candidate

A. Dowie	I have volunteered for Tecumseh animal adoption events for more than 10 years and have fostered many animals. I am a supporter of the SPCA and Humane Society. I believe that many of these services should always be provided on the local community, with the municipality providing assistance. I would not support a by-law to
B. Dowie	

Leo Demarco: I believe that animals and wildlife require us to be the caretaker of this planet. I also feel that common sense should be taken into account and that not all situations are the same. As a society we do need to take care of our pets, feral or not. I also know that wildlife needs our respect and to remember that they are indeed wild, in all of this there is common sense and kindness.

Andrew Dowie: I am a resident of Tecumseh and have been for the past 10 years. I am an animal lover, and have two dogs. I feel that the residents of the town of Tecumseh deserve a town that they can be proud of. The town of Tecumseh residents absolutely love their pets and I can attest that I have met many that are being well cared for. I do not have a special platform item on animal protection but encourage all residents to make their views and opinions known to me with respect to these issues. I have supported certain by-laws referenced in this survey as a result of having been supplied with more information on background and enforcement (i.e. tethering) since the previous election.

Tania Jobin: I am a resident of Tecumseh and have been for the past 10 years. I am an animal lover and have two dogs. I feel that the residents of the town of Tecumseh deserve a town that they can be proud of. As a long time owner of dogs and cats, I feel that pet owners must take responsibility for control and care of their animals. It is also important to me that our by-laws are enforced.

Rick "Ricci" Tonial: I am a resident of Tecumseh and have been for the past 10 years (retired). My past 12 yrs. I was responsible for operations of the Tecumseh OPP detachment and dealt with many animal control issues. Each event that I dealt with, we dealt with fairness and compassion.

Brian Houston: I appreciate and care for all animals just like you do. You have my commitment that I will do everything I can, and ensure that we have the required bylaws and enforcement in place to protect all animals in our community. With my 4 years of council experience and depth of understanding the needs of our community, I will continue to be a strong voice around the council table for you, and our community.

Michael Roussel: I believe animals play an important role in many people's lives. In addition to seeing eye dogs and dogs that can be trained to detect seizures, animals can also be used in occupational therapy, speech therapy, or physical rehabilitation to help patients recover. Aside from these designated therapeutic roles, animals are also valued as companions, which can certainly affect the quality of our lives. The impact animals have on our health is encouraging. Some research studies have found that people who have a pet have healthier hearts, stay home sick less often, make fewer visits to the doctor, get more exercise, and are less depressed. Nothing breaks my heart more when I see an injured or deceased animal on the side of the road, or upon hearing stories about animal abuse. I condemn all forms of animal abuse and will do whatever I can to help eradicate the issue for good.

B. Houston: Re Q10 - Restrain Urban Chickens, Council did pass a pilot project to study how a potential bylaw allowing chickens in our municipality will work and how many resources it will require. We have not passed a bylaw to allow, but passed a pilot program. This will be coming back to council for a final decision.

B. Dowie: I would like to add that there might be merit to service expansion but I would not support for all..