

1. Ground water management is a very important issue. As the population increases , water conservation be comes ever more important. Conserving our water, bring our stream levels back where they are adequate for fish habitat and for private well use is our challenge going forward. Recharging of the aquifer is the responsibility of us all. I am not an expert and do not pretend to have the technical answers that the hydra geologists and others have but some ideas could include using a higher mix of GVRD water to ground water for the municipal wells, use of more detention and retention ponds to filter water back into the aquifer, more reduction of watering of lawns in peak use times, use more perforated pipes to take away storm water (off of parking lots or other paved surfaces ) to and filter it back into the ground. Retaining of the moratorium on development over the Hopington aquifer, until we have restored the water table and solved the quality issues is something I would support.
2. The protection of the water shed areas in the Fort Langley Flood plain for habitat retention aquifer renewal and recharging, and environmental sustainability are important issues that need working on. Methods of retaining these areas, such as preserving them through purchasing land by the Township for wildlife habitat, stream preservation and trails is important. Balanced with that are the rights of the farmers in this important agricultural area. I feel there must be ways to work with the agricultural community, the experts in flood plain preservation to come to a place where we all benefit. Sustainable farming practices, preservation of the wetlands, and stream reclamation is a goal we need to work towards.
3. Consultations with the public on important issues in the municipality is an ongoing process and one that has been occurring. There are issues and times that this consultation could have been done earlier or taken in a larger sample of the population. I would work towards making sure this process takes on a more open approach and to involve them during the process.