

# SCOTT HILLHOUSE



### A Message from Scott

Dear Residents

On October 24<sup>th</sup> I ask you to come out to the polls and support me as your next Mayor of St. Clements. I am a long-time resident of our community and our family has cottaged in Grand Beach since 1955 and Grand Marais since late 70's. I have been married for 30 years and we have raised our children St. Clements since 1994. I have retired as a business owner who employed 30 employees and have the time to commit to getting the job done right! I am running for Mayor during this election to help make change. As well, we need to re-establish the direction of low taxes and true transparency. This is something I feel has been lost over the last 4 years.

I am NOT nor ever been a career politician or government employee. I am running for the position of Mayor for several reasons. One of which is I believe that my extensive business experience will be a benefit for the day to day running of the RM. I feel the RM is a business and it needs to be run as such!

#### Did you know?

- That since the last term has started in 2015 my municipal portion of my taxes has increased over **16% in 4 years**. This is way above the cost of living and it is taking away from our families.
- That our Municipal debt load has increased significantly over the last four years and is about to go up significantly from the borrowing that has been introduced by this Mayor. The next round of borrowing will leave us with another major property tax increase. Can we AFFORD even more taxes? Where are the Grants?
- Grants? In the past we have seen major grants come to our municipality but no longer. Grants are down about \$ 1.5 million annually in last 4 years. The lack of action from the head of Council to go and chase the money has added to our debt. Instead, the Mayor has hired an Economic Development Officer to do the Mayoral work with no results.
- I need to ask how many know of the project overruns that have occurred, some were not controllable but again, how many knew? **Transparency**? \$2.5 million dollars in overruns should have been openly presented not hidden under the fine print.
- Our roads, our drainage, do not need loans to fix them, they need support to Public Works so our staff can fix them! We need to do a better job of managing our resources with equal time dedicated to **the WHOLE RM**. We need our road maintenance equipment on the road, not sitting at the shop.

We need to reverse this and more if "ST CLEMENTS IS {truly}THE PLACE TO BE" as the RM slogan states. We need to invest in ourselves with all levels of government on board. Success needs to be a partnership not an election mission to have yourself re-elected on the back of all the good residents!

Good business makes Good sense!



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### Better Governance Needed!

- Red River Planning District: Tried to get a permit lately? A subdivision? I have, and it was an experience that I wish to forget. Better management is needed. RRPD should be there to serve the public, not put up road blocks. Our current Mayor is presently Chair and has been on the RRPD Board of Directors since 2014 with no real focus for our RM. Where is the leadership? I will do my utmost to fix this if elected!
- Garbage and Recycling pick up. We have seen major tax increases over the last four years and then we are asked to pay once again for this service. Though I support the idea of garbage and recycling pick up, it must be done for all as part of the services we already pay for. I will work to find an equitable solution to this if elected!
- Many of the complaints I have heard on the campaign trail; the equipment is hard to get in the north or south: routine road maintenance is not getting done everywhere; in most areas ditches not getting graded for the drainage promised by the current Mayor; that the distribution of dust control seems to be favored; (I did travel a stretch of Hwy 508 recently and the application of dust control measures with so significant it was almost like asphalt with no homes within a mile either way of this portion of road.) The list goes on and on. I will work hard to fix this imbalance!
- Election time should not be the time of action. Action should be coming from all 4 years of the term. The idea of fairness for all should be followed. I must ask why is it that the residents of East Selkirk are asked to pay for their water when it is supplied free in Beaconia Beach? I realize the cost is far less but where is the fairness. Everyone should be treated the same. If one area pays for a service then we should all pay! Let's make it fair!!!!

#### **Poll Stations**

Please note that there are **2 changes** for the Election Polls.

POLL 2 is now at Abundant Life Church at the corner of Rebeck and Raleigh POLLS 4, 5 and 6 are now at Happy Thought School 659 Quarry Road POLLS 1,3,7,8,9,10 and 11 remain as last Election

Thank you for reading yet another Election Letter and please get out and vote.

### Your voice is your vote!

"No Promises, JUST RESULTS!" scotthillhouse@shaw.ca