



Key Questions for 2026 North Frontenac Municipal Candidates

The **North Frontenac Lake Association Alliance (NFLAA)** is a coalition of 18 Lake Associations representing the interests of waterfront property owners broadly across the Township, and with membership comprising 59% of these property owners. The NFLAA was established by volunteers to provide representation, assistance, and leadership on shared interests.

Our main goal is to help lake associations in North Frontenac protect and enhance their environment and maintain the quality of water in our lakes for future generations.

Given that the NFLAA works closely with North Frontenac Council, we are keenly interested in the candidates' positions on key strategic issues that are closely aligned with our mission.

1. Questions for candidates: What position are you vying for: mayor or councillor ?

Hi, my name is Kelly Willis, OCT and I am a candidate for the Mayoral position in North Frontenac.

Thank you for the volunteer work that you do to keep our Township beautiful. Thank you for uniting the voices of those who share our services and have direct access to our shared land of lakes.

2. Working relationship:

Given the significant number of lakefront property owners who belong to NFLAA, how do you propose to resolve common issues and provide us with a platform for our voice? How would you propose engaging with Lake Associations to understand their concerns? What steps will you take to foster this approach?

I have attended all the Regular Council meetings for approximately the past year and too have voiced my concerns for the well-being of the constituents in North Frontenac (NFt). My primary platform is access to clean drinking water in the North. My concern will emphasize the controversial Robertsville site that was abandoned by both the owner company and the township Council, because the soil is tainted. It is a concern because this tainting can be transferred to the aquifer filtration system. Their lack of action, in Robertsville, is not the only polluting factor in the area. The intersection of 509 and South Lavant Road has a sunken gas tank. I was permitted to do a delegation, on July 9, 2026 starts 45 minutes into their meeting about these issues; like some other constituent delegations have done in the past for Council about other matters that may be concerning. The Mayor stated based on the sunken tank in the ground that "they already have gas in their wells." meaning the neighbouring wells in the area. As so many delegations before, there was no resolve to the matter. Councillor Inglis at that time indicated that there is a moral (ethical) obligation to consider the matter. Robertville Site was up for a back-taxes sale again for the August Council meeting. The Council will be looking more closely at a previous environmental assessment based on a level-1 investigation for September Regular Council meeting.

I have attempted to attend the Annual General Meetings that were taking place for those associations listed on the North Frontenac Website. I believe the NFt website is the main venue for communications. The website has been modified this year, but it still has work to be done to provide better engagement with the public. I believe it is important to hear the voice of the people. I have attended as many Committee of Adjustment, Housing Task Force, Environmental Task Force and Economic Task Force meetings as possible. I have engaged in conversations about survey distribution to the public. I do not believe that it requires a huge investment of time and money to get your opinion. I believe if you want to participate in a poll, just provide the NFt with your email address and verify that you are a voting constituent with this municipality. This initiative needs to be addressed by staff, but as a teacher with principal qualifications I am well rehearsed in policy & procedures.

I was invited to attend three meetings; one was Palmerston Lake Association I have heard their issues. Mine are in line with theirs, water and environmental well-being. As a former tri-athlete, I love to swim, bike and more, also. This municipal involvement was demonstrated by me through being a member of the Cycling Advisory group in Mississauga when we produced a Master Plan for city trails.

It was noted at the second meeting I attended, Weiss Point Residents' Meeting, that it is the responsibility of the Lake Association members to ensure they have safe access to their properties and clear access for emergency vehicles for their services to be completed. Most often, this is accomplished by right-of-way. I am sorry for this. Measures are not being taken for the voice and needs of the municipality by the township Council. It is the Council decisions made during a Regular meeting that direct staff operations for our constituent's voice.

The Communications of Interest are presented at the Regular Council meetings. These documents are not publicly accessible, unless a formal request is made by a member of the public. Communications are only addressed during the Regular Council Meeting if it is deemed necessary by an elected official. Staff may indicate what is important but they may not know.

I have read all Communications of Interest published since February of this year. I do know operations and how the voices work to have action occur. The Township receives funding based on grants from Federal and Provincial institutions, if you do not ask you will not receive. Very important for when you want to have issues addressed and funding provided. The township staff is not always diligent about this because timelines may not be kept by some staff and it is not the duty of the Council member, opportunities get missed. Success for the Nft is based on the diligence of the elected officials and the directives given by their ward constituents. This responsibility requires dedication and belief in selecting the best opportunities for the Economic growth of Nft. Mine is an increase in recreational activities and safe access to our personal sanctuaries.

The Communications of Interest demonstrate what the issues are for the people of Canada. It is the united voice of the Municipalities and their associations, which will guide change for an improved riding. For instance, Healthcare, Eastern Ontario Warden's Association discusses many concerns about the infrastructure funding that is needed by the lower-tier municipalities. Council has not sent letters of support, so our voice is not there in many instances. I will attempt to receive funding to improve the quality of services provided for our constituents, and more to the point I will let the Federal and Provincial government know what we need, instead of what they want to give us.

The third AGM is the Shabomeka Lake meeting on September 6, 2026. I look forward to this opportunity to meet people of Nft and to hear about their concerns. The Shabomeka president has described some issues, one being access to their properties (right-of-way) and need for others to respect the rights of owners enjoying their cottages or the public beach.

I have been promised to receive the minutes from Canonto Lake AGM and will have open discussions with Jennifer, president regarding their insights. It has been good to hear the voices of the people and as a Mayor I look forward to working together to overcome these dilemmas. I feel that open communications is important. Transparency is necessary as we traverse the path for improved services in Nft.

3. Septic System Re-Inspection Program

Because of the critical importance of septic maintenance programs and the impact on the quality of water, this is a topic of vital importance to the NFLAA. To this end, NFLAA has been advocating for a mandatory septic system re-inspection program similar to what has been put in place by several other local Townships. Please outline your position on this topic, including specifically your thoughts on this issue relative to waterfront properties.

Thank you for stating upfront what your position is on septic system re-inspection. I had wondered, if it is the responsibility of Nft to pay for these voluntary inspections done for lake owners.

Mandatory seems expensive and Nft does not have the funding for something so fundamentally necessary. I do understand your position though. Do recognize that I too have the same concerns, since I have been a seasonal resident with Nft for over 60 years and use Buckshot Creek water flow to wash dishes and provide for clean water necessities without filtration. It is now time for us to filtrate so that we can have fresh drinking water. Last year's drought promoted awareness for a much needed

municipal water site for those people who had no drinking water in their wells, people on the lake may not have noticed the same hardship.

Septic system maintenance is critical as you stated, but each septic site has its own needs and cannot be determined simply based on a formula. We can speculate a time frame for when it is good to have the septic system inspected, but it is really about how the system is being used and cared for. Truthfully, our system has never been inspected. It has been in operation for 20 years. Mandatory is really hard. Providing town hall meetings on septic system care and knowing the different type of septic systems, with what to look for in septic system maintenance is important. I heard that presenters have actually done lectures at AGM meetings; I believe it was mentioned to me by a Big Gull member. He indicated that it was quite fascinating.

I believe the voluntary inspection is working well and can be easily monitored by the staff. AI technology is getting very good and can be utilized for organizing and assisting in analysis of municipal records. NfT can create a bylaw to ensure that inspection is done within a reasonable amount of time and ensure that those records are kept up-to-date through the land sale transfer. Septic system oversight is an ongoing issue that will need to be addressed (monitored) until we can get a communal site on location. If technology costs drop, we can provide staffing opportunities for those much needed communal waste and water filtration systems for our future developments in this municipality.

4. Short-term Rentals (STRs)

The Township's Environmental Task Force (ETF) has recommended a policy to address the issue of STRs. What is your understanding of the issue, and do you feel the ETF's recommendations adequately and fairly address the issue?

Short-term Rentals is an interesting topic. Mississauga makes it mandatory for the owner to be on-site during the use of the dwelling, as a STR. They charge a flat-rate of \$250 annually for their business licence. Home owners can register with AirBnB or another STR service host, so then the municipality does not have to worry about searching for the funds from the STR business initiative.

I do not mind the idea of STRs, I feel that we should be able to share the beautiful area that we live in and what better way to experience it than through the lakefront we cherish. However, not everyone appreciates the neighbour turn-around in a residential home/cottage that is STR. If an area is zoned as Recreational Commercial, then neighbours expect change in residents during seasonal activity. STRs need to be monitored and known (expected) by residents and the municipality.

I think STRs should be a joint effort with the Economics Development Task Force (EDTf). I believe the understanding and commitment to bylaw declarations is still in its infancy. The Environmental task force (Etf) should be contributing to the decision made regarding STRs. Septic Inspection might need to be mandatory with this type of accommodation. Bylaws regarding safety for STRs have begun, but there is much needed work required to ensure safety in the community. NfT is volatile and if new comers are not aware of protocols necessary to keep our environment safe then we must ensure that landlords and tenants follow the bylaws. A bylaw officer is a much needed member of staff for NfT.

The bylaw officer is required for many reasons, but funding has not been allocated for this position. The bylaws are defined for many reasons and need to be enforced. If a resident calls Frontenac County for the Bylaw officer, the response is "call the township office". People follow rules and use laws to feel safe and protected. Not all individuals follow the law, but those who take advantage should be reprimanded to keep from harming others or the environment.

The Etf has made a recommendation for staff to investigate a financial and business plan to implement, unfortunately the longer it takes to approve then more money is lost in municipal income.

5. What is your position on balancing the tradeoff between promoting land-use development and protecting the environment in North Frontenac?

I like this question, because I am all about harmonizing with the environment as much as possible.

Consider “at capacity” designation for our lakes: no more development. Where does the development occur then?

The land can take additional capacity and we can share our lakes with those that are blessed to have lake home access. This development structure is based on the initiative of restoring the Robertsville Site for use. Do not waste our natural resources, but build to harmonize with the natural flow created for our health and future growth. NFt is blessed with Crown Land. We embrace nature and many can exist from the natural resources provided by the land, through hunting, fishing, trapping and sources of farming in the area. We use these features to enjoy and share what is so vital to our survival. I do not feel that enough is being done to protect the environment. We must constantly strive to improve the safeguards we have in place for protecting the environment. I know that the lake associations are very protective of the richness we hold in freshwater, otherwise we it would no longer exist. Thank you for working to protect what is so precious.

6. What are your top three priorities coming into this role?

Please see included one page summary:

A Practical Vision for a Stronger, More Connected, and Sustainable Community

My Commitment to North Frontenac

North Frontenac is a unique community built on natural beauty, strong values, and resilient people. As Mayor, I will focus on practical solutions that protect our environment, strengthen our economy, and improve services for residents while respecting taxpayer dollars.

PRIORITY 1: CLEAN WATER & ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Protecting our lakes, rivers, and groundwater for future generations.

- Explore innovative water treatment solutions and technologies.
- Support responsible environmental management and lake protection.
- Promote sustainable development that safeguards natural resources.
- Work with residents, experts, and government partners to ensure long-term water security.

"Our water is our future. Protecting it must remain a top priority."

PRIORITY 2: TELECOMMUNICATIONS & COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Reliable communications are essential for safety, business, education, and quality of life.

- Advocate for expanded broadband internet access throughout the township.
- Support improved cellular coverage in underserved areas.
- Strengthen emergency notification and public safety communications.
- Increase transparency through regular municipal updates and public engagement.
- Improve access to municipal information and services.

"A connected community is a stronger and safer community."

PRIORITY 3: MUNICIPAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Creating new revenue opportunities without relying solely on property taxes.

- Investigate the development of a municipally owned campground and seasonal RV community.
- Generate new municipal revenue streams to support local services and infrastructure.
- Support tourism and recreational opportunities that benefit local businesses.
- Encourage responsible investment that aligns with community values.
- Build municipal assets that contribute to long-term financial sustainability.

"Smart municipal enterprise can help strengthen our future while reducing pressure on taxpayers."

PRIORITY 4: FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Ensuring every tax dollar delivers value to residents.

- Focus on responsible budgeting and long-term planning.
- Pursue grants and partnerships whenever possible.
- Prioritize investments that provide measurable community benefits.
- Maintain transparency and accountability in municipal decision-making.

"Good government starts with responsible stewardship of public funds."

PRIORITY 5: STRONG COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Working together to build a better North Frontenac.

- Listen to residents and encourage public participation.
- Foster collaboration among permanent residents, seasonal residents, businesses, and community organizations.
- Support respectful and transparent governance.
- Make decisions based on facts, common sense, and the long-term interests of the township.

Together We Can:

- ✓ Protect Our Water
- ✓ Improve Telecommunications
- ✓ Strengthen Our Economy
- ✓ Support Responsible Growth
- ✓ Build a Sustainable Future

A Stronger North Frontenac Starts with Practical Leadership.