

NFLAA responses 2026: ROY F HUETL

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

I am running for re-election as Councillor of Ward 2 in North Frontenac.

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?

As President of the Buckshot Lake Association since 2021, I understand that the NFLAA advocates for a large portion of our community. In my current term, I believe that I have created a platform to resolve common issues by spearheading the creation of the NF Environmental Task Force in 2024. As Chair of this committee, with the aid of staff and working within the NF Strategic plan to protect the environment, we were able to select committee members that are aligned with many of NFLAA's goals. Over the past 4 years, I have attended multiple lake association AGMs throughout North Frontenac, and have engaged in conversations with their Presidents. Developing these relationships has allowed me to bring the concerns of lake property owners not only to the task force, but also to Council directly. If elected in 2026, I plan to continue my role as Chair of this committee.

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.

With a career background in water and wastewater management, I have been very aware of the importance of regular septic inspections. As Councillor and Chair of the Environmental Task Force, over the past 4 years I have strongly advocated for a progression from voluntary to mandatory septic inspections. Even though this process has taken longer than anticipated, I will continue to make this a priority for the next Council. The current task force has made progress by having a Bylaw approved by Council to require a mandatory septic inspection at the point of sale of all dwellings. I am hoping this will be in place by the end of this council term. Thanks to the interest

created by the task force, NFLAA, and multiple township social media posts, the number of voluntary inspection requests has increased dramatically. In 2025, the full budget attributed for these inspections was used. In 2026, 35 extra inspections above the budget were completed.

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?

Admittedly, I am biased in responding to this question, as I had direct input into the creation of this policy. I have always believed that STRs are more than a potential noise and zoning violation. STRs are very much an environmental concern in relation to the overuse of septic systems and the effect that this has on our lakes. For this reason, we must ensure that septic systems are designed to match the size and usage of these dwellings.

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

First, we must acknowledge that development of land on lakefront and non-lakefront properties have different implications for the environment. I have always advocated for the protection of our lakes and waterways in NF. As Chair of the MVCA, I have also been able to educate the task force and Council on broader water related issues.

I am not in favour of any large land-use development. Any development that happens should maintain the characteristics of our small hamlets, and also protect the environment.

When considering lakefront development, the carrying capacity of the lake must be the number one indicator. Over the past two years, the ETF has struggled with this, due to the fact that the calculation of carrying capacities is very complicated requiring specific expertise. There are multiple stakeholders who need to coordinate this responsibility. As Councillor, and Chair of the ETF, I would like this to become a priority for the ETF in the next term.

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

1. **Budget-** *This should be the number one priority of Council as a whole; funds must match the intended programs and services.*
2. **Conservation Authority Amalgamation-** *Since the initial announcement, this has become one of my biggest concerns for NF. We are not sure of the extent that this will affect our township, specifically our dams, lake programs, and environmental monitoring. As Chair of the MVCA, I am fortunate to be part of the amalgamation transition team that will create the new regional authority (St. Lawrence River Conservation Authority). If elected, I intend to campaign the new Council to put my name forward as a representative on the County Council. This will then give me the opportunity to request a seat on the Regional Board of the new conservation authority. Recently, I initiated a Motion from NF Council to request that the Province of Ontario increase our representation to 2 board members on the new conservation authority (at the County level).*
3. **Environmental Task Force-** *I plan to advocate for the ETF and its continuation into the next Council. The ETFs two main goals related to septic inspections and STRs need to be completed, and we need to move forward with developing a framework for lake carrying capacity. The ETF also needs to assess possible future focuses. For me the ETF covers such a large scope which includes all residents of NF.*