

Municipal Candidates' Responses to Candidate Survey Regarding Skeena Wild Salmon

Questions:

- 1. What do you perceive as the single greatest human-caused threat to Skeena wild salmon?**
- 2. If elected, what will you do to ensure sustainability of our Skeena wild salmon?**
- 3. Do you support or oppose the Enbridge pipeline?**
- 4. What do you think is the single greatest opportunity for non-industrialized community economic development?**
- 5. Do you support protection of the Sacred Headwaters?**

KITIMAT

Randy Halyk

1. Simply put fish farming and the lack of action by government and DFO on this very serious threat.
2. There is little a local government can do other than lobby the Provincial and Federal Governments to protect our salmon. Support good science and reject environmentally dangerous projects. Organizations like Friends of Wild Salmon need to take action. Learn about what the issues are that affect our salmon and support real Salmon not just ideologies.

Sustainable programs are essential to maintain any fishery. River lake and stream enhancement is a no brainer yet both DFO and Provincial Fisheries would rather sit on their hands and watch our waterways be degraded by unsustainable practises.

Hatcheries are a great stopgap measure to maintain a fishery but why not fix the problem instead of just massaging it. Even the Hatchery system has been eroded, budgets have been cut, programs curtailed, people laid of.

Wouldn't it be smarter to bring our waterways back from the brink stop overfishing and start repairing?

I have witnessed and been involved in restoration projects in other provinces that have not only saved waterways but have created sustainable fisheries. Projects that may have an initial high capital cost, but in the long run cost far less because once restored that fishery need only to be protected and will produce far more fish. The cost of stewardship programs in far less than maintaining hatcheries.

3. NO,
4. Good question. I recently watched a documentary on sustainable living; the premise was somewhat akin to the 100 mile diet. The idea is to develop a sustainable community to the point that growth is not needed to maintain a healthy life style and economy. You would still need industry and commerce but it would be as clean and environmental maintainable. A utopian dream world but the documentary had examples of communities in a number of countries around the world working within that framework. I look forward to hearing the answer from far smarter people than myself.
5. Yes

Joanne Monaghan

1. Illegal fishing

2. Lobby
3. By law that our council has set out, I am neutral and will remain so until the environmental review comes out.
4. Green issues, like biomass (eg Pytrade, a company from Germany that is dealing in Bio mass, heat and electricity from wood waste, pellets from wood waste and briquettes from cardboard), and tourism.
5. I believe that is a question that should be sent to the NCLGA, as that organization of elected officials covers that area.

Danny Nunes - Could not reach/Did not respond

Jim Thom - Could not reach/Did not respond

Joshua Callahan - Could not reach/Did not respond

Bob Corless - Could not reach/Did not respond

Edwin Empinado - Could not reach/Did not respond

Mario Feldhoff - Could not reach/Did not respond

Phil Germuth - Could not reach/Did not respond

Rob Goffinet

1. Previous to this past year, I would have said logging, but lately with the possible commercial fish-farm introduced viruses into Pacific wild stocks, I would say open-net fish farming may prove to be the greatest threat. Definitive scientific study must be done on this subject.
2. As an elected District of Kitimat Councillor with a close working relationship with our Skeena MLA Robin Austin, and our Skeena-Bulkley Valley MP Nathan Cullen, I will work towards the replacement of open-net fish farms with closed containment systems coupled with enforcement of best forest practices regarding logging. I also endorse continued, full support of the DFO's Kitimat River Fish Hatchery.
3. I am on record as being opposed to the Enbridge Northern Gateway (Bitumen) Pipeline. I believe it poses a grave risk to the more than 1000 water courses that it will traverse between Alberta and the BC Coast, as well as posing an unacceptable and possibly catastrophic threat to the entire North Coast through it's use of super tankers to export the bitumen offshore.
4. In Kitimat, the development of the sport fishing industry, as well as boating, kayaking and eco-tourism focused on the Douglas Channel and on the North Coast in general, is the greatest non-industrial opportunity for development.
5. Yes. I am in favor of making the moratorium on natural gas extraction in the head waters of the major salmon bearing rivers of the northwest a permanent one. I am concerned that through the application of modern techniques like hydraulic fracturing the major water courses of the Northwest could be severely damaged threatening the fish stocks and natural eco-systems of these rivers.

Mary Murphy

1. The greatest human-caused threat to the Skeena wild salmon, is over fishing, my perception, followed by leaching into the rivers.
2. Education on the maintenance of our fish supply. There have been many changes over the years, and fishing has taken on a specialized kind of fishing, and I am not concerned with the sport fisherman. Lobby the government on strengthen environmental laws, and enforced compliance with the communities and industries.

3. At this time I feel that The Enbridge pipeline, has too many risks, which outweighs the benefits. I am willing to sit down with the government, the industry and communities to insure environmental laws are upgraded and risks are addressed. We have a huge appetite for this commodity, and I don't hear any solutions, we need to be part of the future building in order to address the huge environmental concerns. That means being part of what we perceive as the projected good and bad changes.
4. Our area is filled with many opportunities by its prestige protected waters, and all that our wonderful Douglas channel has to offer, we also have beautiful surrounds, wonderful culture and traditions. but all that should be looked at with all aspects, I am hopping that we are not looking at elimination of all industries? that is not the answer, we need balance of sustainability which includes, a balance between industry, environment concerns, and social responsibilities.
5. Absolutely support the protection of the Sacred Headwaters, the culture, the protection of the beautiful pristine beauty of this beautiful land, and this can be done with honesty and analysis to the fullest, proposals coming forward. Working with communities, government and industries...to ensure our community needs are met.

John Pacheco - Could not reach/Did not respond

Jack Riddle

1. In the past I would have considered over fishing by ALL concerned as the most damaging to our wild Skeena Salmon. However, at this time I feel that the proposed Enbridge pipeline running past the Skeena and it's tributaries, in close proximity to the Skeena watershed, the very greatest threat.
2. I will work diligently to get all concerned to remove the threat of the Enbridge pipeline.
3. Obviously I am opposed to Enbridge.
4. Tourism. We are smack dab in some of the most beautiful, most pristine and mostly undamaged part of the world and lets show case it.
5. Yes – this is where the watershed begins. Without the Headwaters we don't have drinking water, our wild life downstream are stressed, our First Nations peoples who rely so heavily on salmon for their diet have their way of life wiped out, etc. etc..

Joe Salema

1. The greatest human cause threat to the wild salmon would be an oil spill on the west coast, straight up, if we let enbridge in, it'll only be a matter of time before we experience thee inevitable.
2. If elected I would work with what resources we have as a council to try and keep our oceans clear of oil tankers.
3. I am OPPOSED to the Enbridge pipeline. I don't need no report to convince me of how I feel on this issue.
4. I believe that the single greatest opportunity for non-industrialized community economic development would have to be the tourism business along with a small business approach geared toward our wilderness and wildlife.
5. Yes I do support the protection of our sacred headwaters.

Corinne Scott - Could not reach/Did not respond

Carl Whicher - Could not reach/Did not respond

