

# CANDIDATES for DEPUTY MAYOR



**Dean Del Mastro**



**Ryan Huntley**

## 1. Why are you running for the elected position you have chosen?

**Del Mastro**

There are significant decisions that will need to be made by the next council in Cavan Monaghan. I feel passionate that we need people with the requisite experience in government, business and agriculture to guide and lead the municipality through these important decisions.

**Huntley:**

I have served for 2 terms as the Millbrook Ward councillor, and feel that my experience and knowledge can be used to representing the entire township

## 2. What skills and experiences do you have that would make you an effective Deputy Mayor?

**Del Mastro**

I am an honors graduate of the O'Dette School of Business at the University of Windsor, I have been active in local small business since 1994 and spent 9 years serving as a federal Member of Parliament for Peterborough and Peterborough County. I have been active in agriculture my entire life and worked on the composition of four federal budgets and served as an intergovernmental lead in the Prime Ministers Office. I know how to get things done.

**Huntley:**

8 Years on council, I have in depth knowledge and experience of the issues that face this township, what has been tried, what has worked and what hasn't worked. The experience I have with the Staff, community groups and residents provide me with the experience to make decisions that best reflect what our township wants, and not someone else's agenda.

### 3. What are your top 3 priorities for Cavan Monaghan?

Del Mastro	Stand strong against any and all annexation, keep taxes and user fees low as life has become less affordable and support smart development, investment and job creation.
Huntley:	Growth Management. – Growing for the sake of growing is not a solution. We need to be smart about the developments and manage them so as to not overwhelm us. Fiscal Responsibility - Keeping the tax rate as low as possible, while still providing excellent services to the residents is essential. Climate Change – We need to be more aware of what affect the decisions we make have on the environment and look long term on how we can be better. We also need to be held accountable for our commitments.

### 4. How will you enhance a sense of community among all residents of the township at a time of significant change?

Del Mastro	Standing up and fighting for our boundaries is the first step in unifying our municipality. Secondly growing our recreational and knowledge infrastructure (libraries and schools) will continue to bring our residents together. Lastly, supporting cultural and seasonal festivals so that we can celebrate everything that we have in common.
Huntley:	As I have been on the BIA for this last term of council, I have work hard to put on and host community events, like Welcome to Summer, and Fall Festival. These events are fantastic in getting people out and interacting with our community. We also need to expand our Recreational programming giving people broader options to participate in community activities.

### 5. What ideas do you have to improve communications with residents and businesses on Township matters?

Del Mastro	Technology is the answer in this regard. Utilizing social media and encouraging interaction through these platforms is the best way to engage in a modern society.
Huntley:	I believe we need to increase the role of our Communications Officer, there are so many channels to manage these days, it requires more focus and higher quality content. Simply publishing a “public meeting” notice in the newspaper is not sufficient. It needs to explain what this public meeting really is about in terms that people can understand and relate to.

### 6. Name a key service and how Cavan Monaghan can improve in its delivery.

Del Mastro	Public safety and specifically road safety is a major concern for many. Policing is important but it's clear we need to bring speeds down in community safety zones. I support introducing photo radar in these areas to bring speeds down and protect our children and residents more broadly.
Huntley:	A key service that could use some focus and improvement is Recreation. We have a lot more people moving into the township, and we need to provide activities for them to do. We need to broaden our offerings and appeal to the diverse wants and needs of our residents or they will simply travel elsewhere, making it hard to garner a sense of community here.

7. All municipalities hope to develop strong local economies. What would you propose to improve business attraction, development and retention in Cavan Monaghan?

Del Mastro	Business investment will follow if we get our official plan and comprehensive zoning review right. As a person that operates two businesses in Cavan Monaghan I can say unequivocally that having the necessary road, IT and municipal services acts like a magnet for business investment and job creation, we have those things and great location. What is holding us back is the availability of serviced employment and commercial lands.
Huntley:	There are a couple of factors that we need to improve. First increasing availability for business to locate here, as well as 'upsized' once they are established. This can be said the same for the businesses that are already here. This term of council we went through the process of setting up a property on Syer Line to enable just that. Secondly - Businesses in start-up phases have enough challenges ahead of them without the Municipality adding unnecessary processes, outdated by-laws and zoning changes. We can work together to streamline these processes to remove some of the burden from businesses, making our township more welcoming and desirable for economic Growth

8. Cavan Monaghan has strong roots as an agricultural community. What opportunities does the Council have to expand its support for farmers and agricultural operations?

Del Mastro	We have to consider agriculture in our official planning particularly with respect to arterial roads that support the safe transport of large equipment. Allowing broader uses for farm properties that would expand the types of allowable farm based businesses as well as allowing 2nd homes to be built and being open to lot severances will provide additional support for farm families and allow them to keep farming. These are things that can be accomplished at the municipal level.
Huntley:	The roots of agriculture do run deep in Cavan Monaghan. Council needs to make sure that farms can take advantage of various diversification initiatives, without again getting caught up in red tape. On-site farm stores, Barn conversions to event venues or B&B's and Farm tours are a few examples we need to be able to enable.

9. Mayoral candidates in the City of Peterborough have publicly stated that they will annex 4,000 acres of Cavan Monaghan into the city during this next term of council. Will you be supportive of engaging in those discussions with the City of Peterborough? Why or why not?

Del Mastro	I will not engage in any discussions with the City of Peterborough with respect to any annexation. Our boundaries are not up for discussion and our township is not for sale. I would be prepared to work with the city and county to encourage investment and improve the lives of our residents. We should be able to work together but it's high time that city politicians and staff extend the respect to Cavan Monaghan that it deserves as a neighboring and independent municipality.
Huntley:	Not at all. The threat of annexation has loomed over us for far too long, decades in fact. Mayoral candidates use it as a distraction from the real issues they face in the

city. Cavan Monaghan, is perfectly capable of managing itself developing the 4000 acres as we see fit, when we see fit to do so.

10. The Cavan Monaghan Parks and Recreation Survey recently addressed the issue of public space in downtown Millbrook. Options were presented for refurbishing the Millbrook arena for uses that would include indoor soccer and lacrosse or alternatively demolishing the structure for a downtown Millbrook town square and community space that could accommodate such amenities as an outdoor stage, picnic areas, outdoor recreational areas and a water-play facility. Do you have a preferred option that you would support and why?

**Del Mastro** I support refurbishing and improving the Millbrook arena, it's an important facility to hundreds and hundreds of local children, teams and families. Separately I am open to the concept of a park or public space being developed. There are other open and available areas in the downtown core that can be pursued and of course during the official plan we can further insure the former jail property is designated for use as public space and other community services.

**Huntley:** The Millbrook arena has served the community well, but it is past its prime. It is great that it can accommodate indoor soccer and lacrosse now, and it should continue to do so while we develop a long-term strategy. To me that strategy is to expand the CMCC with a field house facility. A field house that can continue to provide indoor Soccer and lacrosse, but also accommodate a much broader array of activities,

11. Climate change is an emerging concern for all municipalities. What can council do to help ensure that the predicted impacts of climate change, such as less predictable rainfall and stronger storms, are mitigated?

**Del Mastro** Fortifying infrastructure such as power delivery, water and wastewater services is critical in insuring that our community can withstand any extreme weather events.

**Huntley:** Climate change impacts should be part of each council report to make everyone more aware of the decisions we make. The biggest thing council can do is protect and respect our watershed. The more we develop and build new homes, the more important it becomes that we pay attention to the natural drainage corridors.

12. Cavan Monaghan Township has hundreds of kilometers of roads. Speeding and road safety are ongoing concerns across the township. What would you propose to increase road safety for all residents on Township roads?

**Del Mastro** See my response to question 6

**Huntley:** There is no single answer to road safety, and it is a struggle everywhere. Speed bumps are always a controversial topic as they can interfere with snowplows and firetrucks, but there are speed bumps that can be set in place temporarily and designed to accommodate the wheelbase of firetrucks to allow them to pass through without slowing down. There is also the use of bump outs and traffic calming zones, that force drivers to slow to avoid obstacles. Mobile Speed monitoring stations can also be deployed to deter speeders and provide information back to the police to help them be more efficient in enforcement.

13. The City of Peterborough owns the Peterborough Airport which is located within the Township of Cavan Monaghan. What role do you envision the Township should play in the future of the Airport and the valuable development lands around it?

Del Mastro	The township needs to oversee the development of the employment lands for the benefit of Cavan Monaghan rate payers and keep these lands within our municipality. The airport has always been located in Cavan Monaghan and it always will be regardless who owns it.
Huntley:	The Township needs to play a key role, the Airport is a crown jewel of the region. Servicing has always been the inhibitor. We need to either work with Peterborough to increase the servicing, and negotiate a cross board servicing agreement, or look at new innovative ways of servicing the airport ourselves. Once either is in place more commercial/industrial development can take place.

14. Cavan Monaghan is endowed with many valuable Natural Heritage zoned areas. At present there is no up-to-date study of the ecological importance of these areas. Do you support the development of a comprehensive Environmental Plan and Watershed Plan for the township? Why or why not?

Del Mastro	There are many protected areas throughout our township but an up to date review would be a good process to undertake. Many residents are likely unaware that an area in Cavan near protected wetlands has been recommended as a preferred future landfill site by an independent study. We need to make clear in any environmental plan that the age of the landfill site is over and that no mega dump will ever be created in our municipality.
Huntley:	I absolutely support the development of the plans. The question has always been around which level of government will actually take on the responsibility and fund it. The watershed does not follow political boundaries, and I would advocate at the county as it covers a greater geographical area for the importance to have these plans in place.

15. After consultation and deliberation, council recently voted to prohibit off-road vehicles from using township roads except for agricultural uses. What is your position on ORVs and local roads?

Del Mastro	Council got this decision wrong. There is a compromise to be found in accordance with Provincial guidelines that will be far less divisive than a prohibition. No one wants hooligans on our roads, that's not what this is about. We allow cars, trucks, commercial vehicles, motorcycles, e-bikes, mopeds, bicycles, horses, carriages, farm equipment and snowmobiles to legally use our roads and have posted signs throughout the township that say "share the road", why are ORV's prohibited even though the province has established clear guidelines for safe operations on rural roads? We need to get this right and find a reasonable compromise that everyone can live with.
Huntley:	After over 2 years of carefully listening to both sides of the debate. I could not make the

argument to allow them on the roads.

16. Municipal water and wastewater services in Cavan Monaghan are paid for by the users of those services. Millbrook residents' water and wastewater rates have significantly increased. The cost of recent expansion of the water treatment plant was to be supported by Phase 2 of the residential development, which has been delayed. Until that development is finished, should these temporary costs be shared by residences and businesses throughout the whole township until the Phase 2 development is complete?

**Del Mastro** No, that's not fair. There is an affordability issue that we need to address but we cannot force the broader community who do not benefit from these services to pay for them.

**Huntley:** Nope, this was never even a consideration. Water and Wastewater is a User based fee structure and will remain that way.

17. Cavan Monaghan has an active arts scene with many artists and cultural events, such as the renowned 4th Line Theatre, which add value to our community. In your opinion, what opportunities does council have to support and promote the arts and culture in Cavan Monaghan? Do you have any ideas you would like to see implemented if elected?

**Del Mastro** I served almost 3 years as the Parliamentary Secretary for Canadian Heritage. The cultural economy is huge in Canada and incredibly important. What's more the cultural community adds tremendous character and distinction to our communities. I support the creation of a new agricultural exhibition and rural expo which would serve as a tremendous platform for artists to participate and then we also need to explore federal programs such as celebrate Canada and cultural spaces for funds to expand our current festivals and facilities.

**Huntley:** I would like to see some form of an organized arts council that can advocate for the needs of local artists. We need to embrace both our Performing and Creative art scenes ensuring access to appropriate spaces. Promote local artists with displays and galleries in municipal buildings. Promote Art Crawls and Studio tours. Have recognition awards.

18. In your opinion, what services can Council offer or improve on to assist local seniors to age in place?

**Del Mastro** Great question! We need more supporting facilities and services such as Healthcare, physio and expanded homecare supports. This again comes back to our planning and zoning reviews, we have to allow these services to set-up and then recruit them to our community. Furthermore in designating the jail property for public use there are locations on those lands where expanded Senior living facilities could be built on grade (concrete slab foundation) that would enjoy a spectacular view and setting.

**Huntley:** Council needs to work with developers to make sure there is an inventory of home and apartment models that are better suited to seniors. New developments need to focus

on living communities, not car towns, so there is a greater ability to walk to stores and recreation. Green Spaces that have amenities tailored to seniors, encouraging people to be outside in the community. Provide more local access to medical and health care services to allow seniors and our entire population better care.