

**From:** Jane Philpott [mailto:janepaulinephilpott@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** September-15-15 11:27 AM  
**To:** Jim Robb  
**Cc:** 'Gloria Reszler'; 'Kevin OConnor'  
**Subject:** Re: Please Respond to 5 Rouge Park Questions from FRW by Sept 18  
**Importance:** High

Dear Jim,

Thanks for your note. As you know, I am a big supporter of the Rouge Park and will advocate on its behalf.

Please find below the party-approved responses to your survey. I would encourage you to continue working in a positive way with those of us who support the spirit of your efforts.

Sincerely,  
Jane Philpott

---

## **Responses**

*Question 1: If elected, will you support amendments to the Rouge National Urban Park Act and draft park management plan to support the implementation of the:*

- *Greenbelt Act and Plan (2005);*
- *Oak Ridges Moraine (ORM) Conservation Act (2001) and Plan (2002);*
- *Rouge Park Management Plan (1994) & Rouge North Management Plan (2001);*
- *Little Rouge Corridor Management Plan (2007);*
- *Rouge Park Natural Heritage Action Plan (2008); and*
- *Rouge (2007) & Duffins (2003) Watershed Plans.*

I am in favour of amending the Rouge National Urban Park Act to support and compliment the implementation of existing land use management and conservation plans undertaken by the province of Ontario.

*Question 2: If elected, will you support the following amended wording for section 6(1) of the Rouge National Urban Park Act as proposed in the Bill introduced by MP Rathika Sitsabaiesan?*

*“The Minister must, when considering any aspect of the management of the Park, give priority to the restoration and maintenance of ecological integrity through the protection and restoration of natural resources and natural processes, while also giving consideration to cultural heritage, farming and infrastructure needs.”*

The Liberal Party of Canada is committed to working with the province of Ontario to give Rouge Park the protection it deserves. This means making the restoration and maintenance of ecological integrity the top priority in managing the Park. This commitment to work collaboratively with the province in regards

to Rouge Park is included in The Liberal Plan for Real Change for the Environment and the Economy (<https://www.liberal.ca/files/2015/08/A-new-plan-for-Canadas-environment-and-economy.pdf>).

*Question 3: If elected, will you support amendments to the Rouge National Urban Park Act and management plan to ensure timely implementation of the Greenbelt and Rouge Park North “main ecological corridor” and Environment Canada's science-based recommendations for improving biological diversity and water quality?*

I support amending the Rouge National Urban Park Act and management plan to ensure timely implementation of the main ecological corridor, and to implement science-based federal recommendations for wetland, grassland, forest and watershed conservation.

*Question 4: If elected, will you support enlarging the National Rouge Park to 100+ km<sup>2</sup> by including existing Rouge Valley and Park lands in Scarborough and Markham, and 24 km<sup>2</sup> of additional federal lands in Pickering to shrink the Pickering Airport Zone?*

I support expanding Rouge Park to include surrounding park lands in the Scarborough, Markham and Pickering regions where feasible. What is most important is that this park protects ecological integrity and provides GTA residents with the maximum benefits associated with parklands: protection of wildlife and biodiversity; flood mitigation and carbon sequestration; containment and buffering of urban sprawl; and greater opportunities for outdoor recreation and education. In principle, I do support making Rouge Park 100+km<sup>2</sup>. Making a 100+km<sup>2</sup> park is an ideal worth striving for, but should not be done simply for the sake of a number.

*Question 5: If elected, will you support amending the Rouge National Urban Park Act to remove the dangerous misnomer “Urban” from the park name?*

Our priority is strengthening the Rouge National Urban Park Act to provide the Rouge Watershed with the same standard of ecological protection afforded to National Parks across the country, regardless of whether Rouge Park is urban or not.