

Sylvia Bray's Interview on Open Forum - Part 2 - A War You Can't Win

I apologize for the length of this post. I decided to keep it all together in a single post, rather than segment it and lose some of the effectiveness of it. Where I speak of council, **please do not hold Joe Belanger responsible, with the other 6 councillors**. He believes in **Community First, Always!**, and our right to expect Transparency from our municipal government. I hope you enjoy the read.

Council – Nina Bifulchi, Sylvia Bray, George Watson, Stan Wells, David Foster, Mark Kinney and special guest collaborator, George Vadeboncouer.

Autocracy: a form of government in which one ruler has absolute control and decision-making power.

Propaganda: information, ideas, opinions, or images, often only giving one part of an argument, that are broadcast, published, or in some other way spread with the intention of influencing people's opinions.

False Flag - An act committed with the intent of disguising the actual source of responsibility and pinning blame on another party."

Conflict of interest - A conflict of interest occurs when a person's or entity's vested interests raise a question of whether their actions, judgment, and/or decision-making can be unbiased.

Sylvia's casual reference to transparency, "don't to want to open the books to 25000 people", during her Open Forum interview, demonstrates for us how council operated and deceived us over and over during their last term. In fact, Sylvia basically told us that residents aren't entitled to the details of a \$19M deal. Council are hiding the specifics and covering-up the truth, not just for this deal, but for many other "deals" they have had their dirty hands into.

It's a Resident's duty to vet their local candidates in 2022 and vote. Unfortunately, in 2018 many were deceived into believing **Two Big Lies that spread through Wasaga Beach** just before the election. These lies proved false after investigation, but the damage was done and the election lost. In both cases, the **lies were started by the mayor and her supporters**. Unfortunately, I have met people who still believe the lies.

In this post, we will discuss the 2 Big Lies, what seems to be a Blatant Cover-up and clear examples of a Conflict of Interest:

1. **The sale of Wasaga Distribution Scandal** – The mayor's team orchestrated a scandal in 2018. They developed a propaganda campaign to both concern and frighten residents into believing that Brian Smith was selling Wasaga Distribution. Brian had no intention of selling and he was very public about this. The story was a false flag and a lie, loaded with propaganda and an attack on both Brian and therefore the residents of our Town.

Bifolchi rewarded her team by firing members of the board of WDI, with some harassment thrown in, and installed the guilty participants into those jobs. See Brian's video here: <https://www.facebook.com/thewasagaproject/videos/312855573622162>

2. **Accusations of corruption and racketeering** - bifolchi formulated a second false flag in 2018. The plan was to discredit Brian Smith by spreading propaganda about corruption and racketeering. Bifolchi took this lie to the OPP, who investigated her allegations and quickly determined that her charges had no merit. She continued making these accusations for months afterwards, in spite of the OPP's decision. She is guilty of a crime, Public Nuisance, and she could still be charged, as there is no expiry for this crime.

3. **The Property the A-L is being built on has a very secretive and puzzling sales history** – The Town was the owner this property, valued at \$1.4M. On April 27, 2011, the Town sold the property to a numbered company for \$1 on August 6, 2019. The numbered company resold it back to the Town on November 7, 2019 for \$5.435M. When the Wasaga Beach Ratepayers Association asked for details about the sale and purchaser, they were met with a great big **NO**. After many requests and out of frustration, the WBRA requested information through each of the various levels of the Freedom of Information process (FOI). The Town continually refused to release the information, until they finally partially relented. Some information was provided, but it was heavily redacted and the purchaser was not revealed. The Town is in violation of the provisions of the FOI Act. Residents still don't know the truth and the Town has been the opposite of transparent about the deal. What are they afraid of? The truth perhaps, or that it might incriminate someone involved in the sale.

4. **A Conflict of interest?** Back to Sylvia's interview. At 10:38 she states the following, "Now as a small business owner I really struggle that my Town is competing with me, to rent to my competitors". Then she states, "Municipalities in my opinion, do not belong in the kind of... in the business deal, competing with me, who pays taxes, who you know provides employment."
Wow what a mouthful. Is she saying that the town shouldn't have rented properties to entrepreneurs that compete with her! **Conflict of interest #1 Restricting opportunities.** Municipalities in my opinion, do not belong...competing with me, who you know, provides employment. – **Conflict of interest #2 – restricting competition**
Lastly, she says clearly, "... competing with me, who you know, who pays taxes, who you know provides employment". So were the people who rented these properties not paying taxes and not employing people. How arrogant and how ridiculous is that statement? **Conflict of Interest #3 – restricting competition**
Let me address this question to you Sylvia, did you vote with council to shut down businesses at the beach and follow that up by voting to shut down the Beach Bar and Food Kiosk and scrapping them at a significant cost to the Town. We know the answer is yes and it's recorded in the minutes of a council meeting. After listening to your statements in the interview, the answer seems very clear to me. Your actions clearly

represent a Conflict of Interest by an elected official and small business owner in Wasaga Beach. You used your position to benefit your private interests. And then there's your use of **Bylaw Enforcement to harass Mr. Norms**. She is thereby protecting her business, at Mr. Norms detriment. **Another Conflict of Interest**.

Concerned residents and at times the local media have come forth with news about these and other nefarious activities and deals. When we ask for transparency and honesty, the Town's response includes personal attacks, obfuscation, denials, propaganda and misdirection. The lack of transparency has created an environment whereby anger and resentment are dividing of the Town. On one side are the mayor's loyalists and partners in deception. On the other side are residents who want **Truth and Transparency**. In my opinion, the mayor has intentionally driven the town towards this dichotomy, through her belligerent behavior and a failure to promote transparency. She pledged to fulfill her duties and manage the Town with **Truth and Transparency** during the 2018 election. She has failed miserably to deliver on this promise.

How about some of their other propaganda tools. The mayor, her communication director and others have made deliberate the use of Town communication tools to spread their tainted message. They shutdown the social media site in 2021 to prevent dialogue, promote their lies, obfuscate, misdirect and spread the deceit that they like to feed us. Residents can no longer ask a question, file a complaint, or expect a response. The Council email address is still working, but questions are met with recorded responses, that are meaningless and useless. Speak with a councillor? There is only one who interested in talking to residents and that is Joe Belanger.

In summary, does **autocracy** help to define our current council's management scheme? Well, when we consider three of the more recent closely guarded deals, the Beach Properties, the A-L property deal and the Arena Library fiasco, plus the conflict of interests, the answer is a resounding **Yes!** 6 of 7 councillors are sycophants and this makes it easy for the mayor and DM to cloak their sinister deals and keep information safe from their employers, the residents of Wasaga Beach. We are neither engaged, nor part of the process. We are however the victims of their schemes and deals, incompetence and disregard. Beach properties sold for \$19M, value estimated at over \$40M. The Truth needs to be told.

In less than 2 months, it will be the residents who decide whether or not they want a returning autocrat, an obedient and ineffectual deputy mayor and a puppet council calling the shots.

Sylvia, Welcome to Election 2022, A War You Can't Win.

Vote Them Out!