



www.aware-simcoe.ca

2022 Municipal Election Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name:

Municipality

Date:

David Evans

Tiny

September 30, 2022

Please return the completed questionnaire to the sender as soon as possible, but no later than September 15, 2022. The answers will then be posted on the AWARE Simcoe website.

N.B: As this is a Word document, you can take as much space as you wish to respond.

=====

1. AWARE Simcoe considers the preservation of farmland, the protection of water resources and natural heritage, and providing transparency and accountability in government decision making to be the primary issues of this election.

Our goal is to elect representatives who support those objectives. Do you agree with this?

The Township of Tiny is undergoing a period of change. Full-time residences in Tiny have rapidly increased to over 60%. Whether we like it or not, Tiny is changing from a part-time seasonal community to a full-time suburb. Nearby townships like Muskoka and Kawartha are already experiencing challenges in maintaining their seasonal characteristics in face of this wave of urban out-migration. We need to act now to preserve Tiny for future generations and ensure our Grandchildren see what our Grandparents did.

Tiny has many issues that need to be dealt with; managing short-term rentals, shoreline accessibility, aggregate extraction, infrastructure investment, and Climate Change just to name a few. I agree that the preservation of farmland, the protection of water resources and natural heritage, and providing transparency and accountability in government decisions are equally important. Council will agree as a united body on the order in which each issue is addressed.

2. Do you feel there is a need to protect water, wetlands, and recharge areas from development, aggregate extraction, and other intrusive activities in your municipality? If so, how will you achieve this?

The people of Tiny want their Township to keep it like it is. A place that retains its seasonal character. I will always follow the direction of the people. As your representative, I see great

opportunities in the future. A Tiny that is true to its past but also progressive enough to stay open to changes that will complement and enhance our common good.

I have three principles that will guide my decision-making.

One: Protecting Tiny's natural environment for future generations

Two: Ensure protection of the environment takes precedence over development

Three: To protect and enhance every neighbourhood in Tiny ensuring a diverse, safe, and attractive place to live

With the support of fellow council members and staff, we will utilize every legal option to protect our resources for future generations.

3. Ancient deposits under the Simcoe Uplands in Simcoe County's Tiny, Springwater, Oro-Medonte and Tay's townships contain pristine groundwater.

This water is the purest water known to science and is the gold standard for water worldwide, a national and global treasure.

Ongoing gravel pit extractions on French's Hill, the water recharge area, now threaten to destroy this precious water. Will you work to protect this important local resource?

Clean water is one of the top priorities. I am committed to working towards a greater partnership with the province to work with Tiny to plan aggregate operation locations and future development to balance industry expectations and citizens' expectations. The current operation at Teedon has a strict site plan that has been agreed upon by the current Council. Tiny must be a vigilant watchdog and ensure the site plan conditions are met. Any project undertaken in Tiny will have strict water quality standards to ensure water purity now and, in the future,

4. Do you support/oppose the expansion of the Greenbelt into Simcoe County? In either case, please explain why.

I do not have any information on the subject as I am not currently in government. As such, any opinion I could provide would be not worth consideration. I would be happy to discuss this once I am fully briefed.

5. What are your plans to combat climate change in your municipality?

Climate change is an indisputable fact, and the effects are evident in many forms. 84% of people believe that climate change is a priority issue that requires mitigation action immediately. We must act now with a goal of net zero emissions.

In Tiny, 87% of our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are generated by the community. Some of the community initiatives I will champion include:

- Education. Inform the public of the harm due to GHG and how to improve
- Support the local food economy. Reduce food freight with direct sales
- Promote benefits of native species plants and trees.
- Promote the “No Mow” program to reduce GHG and benefit pollinators
- Promote benefits of trees in home, community, rural, and forest environments
- Public transit – Currently Tiny has limited access to Linx or neighbouring municipality’s public transit. New options for Tiny to reduce transportation GHG emissions and options for people without access to vehicles.

On a corporate level, 75% of our GHG are Fleet related. As such electrifying the fleet would be a priority. Additionally, ensuring our planning and building departments incorporate net zero energy practices in all new home construction.

6. Every municipality in Ontario is faced with row-on-row sprawl-style development, and surrounding farmland is being destructively gobbled up with little regard for future agricultural needs. Ontario is losing 319 acres of farmland every day; it needs to be protected before it is too late. We need to ensure we have the land to grow food for today and future generations. Once it’s paved over, it’s gone forever!

How will you protect agricultural lands within your municipality?

Worldwide shortages of water, land, and energy combined with the increased demand from population and economic growth are forecasted to create a global food shortage around 2050(The World Counts, 2022). The threat is real, and we must be prepared.

Agricultural lands in Tiny are protected under the current plan and I would not support any change that would reduce the availability of farmland.

7. Simcoe County Council chose a county forest in Springwater Twp – zoned Agricultural, as the site for a (much needed) waste handling facility, the Environmental Resource Recovery Centre (ERRC). Many residents in Simcoe County objected to this location, pointing out that

this is an industrial use and there are suitable properties zoned Industrial where the facility should be built. What is your view?

As I mentioned previously, I will not support the reduction of agricultural land in Tiny. I am not aware of the background information on the ERRC. I would hope that in their decision Simcoe County and the Springwater Council would reflect an agricultural land policy like mine.

8. If elected, what are your top three priorities?

ANSWER

1. Implementation of Tiny's new short-term rental bylaw
2. Creating low, middle, and multi-generational housing availability in Tiny
3. Infrastructure planning incorporating climate change mitigation strategies

=====

Thank you for completing the AWARE Simcoe candidate questionnaire.