

Get Ready for This Fall's Municipal Election

By DOUG KIRK, FARLAIN LAKE

The current members of Tiny Township Council — Mayor George Cornell, Deputy Mayor Steffen Walma, and Councillors Cindy Hastings, Richard Hinton and Gibb Wishart — will soon have been in office for four years, which means we'll be having an election this fall. The Federation of Tiny Township Shoreline Associations and its newspaper, *The Tiny Cottager*, believe that voters armed with timely and comprehensive information will make the most informed choices when voting to elect their township's municipal government. Therefore, we will do our best to help you prepare for voting.

At this juncture, we are outlining the timetable for this year's election and presenting key steps for voters. In the fall issue of *The Tiny Cottager*, we will provide information on each of the nominees running for municipal council, sharing with you information on their background and experience, as well as their positions on key issues affecting Tiny Township.

Key dates

The timeline for the 2018 municipal election is as follows:

- May 1 — the nomination period opens for municipal council and school trustees
- July 27 — nominations close (they must be filed with municipal clerk)
- September 24 — vote-by-mail kits arrive
- October 11 — last date to post completed ballots by mail*
- October 22 — election day

Information for both electors and candidates is available at tiny.ca/Your Government/Election.

* From October 12 to 22, voters may deposit their ballots at the township office.

You must be on the voters list!

If you are a resident, owner or tenant of property in Tiny, or the spouse of such owner or tenant, a Canadian citizen, and 18 years of age or older on polling day, you are eligible to vote in the township's municipal and school board elections. Use www.voterlookup.ca to check that you are on the voters list. It's easy and takes only 3-5 minutes.

In the fall issue of *The Tiny Cottager*, you'll find a full list of candidates running for office in Tiny.

Thinking of running?

Since the last election, the Municipal Elections Act has been amended. Here are three important changes:

- nominations must now include endorsement signatures from 25 eligible electors
- donations in cash or in kind cannot be accepted from corporations or trade unions
- the individual contribution limit per candidate has been raised from \$750 to \$1200

Find out about other changes here: www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page11112.aspx.

Notice to Candidates and Potential Candidates

The Tiny Cottager is the only publication in Tiny Township that is delivered to every household, making it an effective vehicle for reaching voters. Space for election advertisements of up to a half page will be available at standard rates in the fall issue, which will be delivered well before voting takes place. To reserve your space for the fall issue, contact Irena Romanko, tinycottagerads@gmail.com

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