

## Statement of qualification for consideration of Council

Candidate:

Darrin Drouillard

[REDACTED]

Tecumseh, ON

[REDACTED]

I am a resident of Tecumseh, Ward 1. I first moved to Tecumseh in 1973 when my parents bought a house on St. Pierre Street that they still have to this day. I started my education at St. Pius X school, followed by St. Anne's High school at the old site on Arbour Street. I walked to school, I pumped gas part time at the small Texaco station on Riverside Drive, and I played in the bean fields between our house on St. Pierre and Lacasse Park.

When I grew up and started my own career I moved away for work, first to Windsor, then Kitchener, Montreal, and Edmonton. When I had the option to return to the area I knew I wanted to come back to my home community of Tecumseh to raise my own Children. I have two Children, aged 22 and 16 who grew up here. They went to St. Marguerite D'Youville grade school and L'Essor High School, where my youngest still attends.

I am currently employed by BellMedia as a Broadcast Technician for their radio and TV properties (CTV, AM 800 CKLW, AM 580, Country 89, and Virgin Radio). I handle maintenance of all electronic components of the stations, as well as broadcast transmitter sites, computers, and IT infrastructure. This is a position I've held in various capacities for the past 30 years. I coordinate contractors, and handle both capital and operating budgets. I am no stranger to spread sheets and cost analysis.

Aside from my day-job, my parents instilled upon me the importance of community and volunteering to give back to that community. My father, a retired Paramedic from Tecumseh was the local Scout Leader in town for many years, and volunteered as a member of the Royal Canadian Legion Br 261 here in town. My mother worked at the Legion, was a member of the Parish Life Committee for St. Anne's and was the local Cub Scout Leader, known to hundreds of kids in Tecumseh as simply "Akela".

When I was old enough I began volunteering with Scouts Canada as a leader here in town with the 35<sup>th</sup> Tecumseh group, a position I still hold to this day. Besides being a Scout Leader I also sit as a member of the Group Committee. Recently I was presented with my 35 year service award and awarded the Silver Acorn for exemplary volunteer service to Scouting. I am also a member in good standing at the Royal Canadian Legion Br 261 as well, and have volunteered as soccer coach when my kids were younger, and with the Optimist Club of St. Clair Beach. The

Optimist Club is a huge supporter of our Scout group as well, and we regularly help them out when we can at such events as the Corn Festival and Taste of Tecumseh.

Recently I began getting involved in municipal committee's and currently sit on the town of Tecumseh Rural Broadband Advisory Committee. We meet quarterly and are developing a program to help solve the connectivity challenges of the Town's residents and businesses. I follow other committee's and their efforts and keep attuned to what is going on in our town. I follow the committee of adjustments, and town council meetings for issues that may be important to me and to my neighbours.

I have watched Tecumseh transform from a small community in the early 70's to the town it is today. The growth of the town through increased development has allowed us to increase our tax base and afford improvements in infrastructure, attract more business to the area and build a sustainable future. When I grew up here, very few people worked in Tecumseh. It was a place to live, and everyone went into Windsor every day to work, be it the auto plants, stores, malls, hospitals, etc. This was the little suburb outside of the big city. That has changed tremendously over the years. There are jobs here now. There is business; there is more housing, with more development happening every day. This town is thriving and I want to see that continue.

My family still lives in Ward 1. I walk my dog through our neighbourhood, through streets that were once corn or bean fields. I see the growth taking place, the new multi-family dwellings going up, the new businesses coming to town and I believe we should do what we can to attract business and development to our town. I am also compassionate to those in my neighbourhood who don't want to see things change, and as a councillor will always lend an ear and be willing to bring their concerns before council. The people of all the wards need a voice in council, and I would like to put my name forward to be that voice.

In closing I would like to say that my years in town, coupled with my years of volunteering, and working with the residents of this town have prepared me to take this step. I would like to offer my services in filling in the Ward 1 seat until such time as an election is held in the fall.

Darrin Drouillard