

Questions

1. Housing is a fundamental human right, and yet an increasing number of residents across the Greater Toronto Area are struggling to pay rent or find an affordable place to live. What policies and actions do you believe need to be implemented to address this crisis?

Housing is a fundamental right and it is unaffordable in Toronto and the GTA.

I want to address the “demand” side of the equation by championing – mandatory work from home (for those who can). This will allow people to escape Toronto’s and the GTA’s unaffordable housing markets. Even with a major correction the average price of a home in Toronto will be twice what most people should pay. Giving residents the choice to move to lower cost jurisdictions will free up units here and lower the cost for those who must remain here for work.

2. The design, construction and operation of our built environment accounts for nearly 40% of energy related carbon emissions, contributing to the ongoing climate crisis affecting us today. What do you believe needs to be prioritized to reduce carbon emissions within the built environment?

The one-two punch knocking out our climate is consumerism and over population. Until we see a social tipping point like the number of followers of the “Climate Killing Kardashians” being “0”, we’re in trouble.

Jane Goodall is right, our best option (Covid-19’s Silver-lining, as she put it) is

“Work-from-home”. It is the gift that keeps on giving, not only cutting emissions but saving people money and time.

Ms. Goodall is afraid mankind will squander this opportunity, but I’m going to do my best to make sure we don’t.

Over population is being addressed by the UN with the expansion of Family Planning throughout the world.

Addressing Consumerism (our main climate killer), which includes our built environment, is outside the ability of our political system. In many cases people live in spaces that are way too large and large carbon emissions come with that choice. I don’t think you can legislate that desire away.

3. In towns and cities, so much of life happens in the shared public spaces—in our parks, libraries and streets. How can we ensure these civic spaces achieve design excellence in their initial conception and construction, and that they are properly maintained so they may continue to serve future generations?

I really believe in community consultation for community spaces. Each should address the wants and desires of the local community. If the community loves the space they’ll make sure it’s there, in good order, for future generations.

