

## 2SLGBTQIA+ Questionnaire for Waterloo Region Municipal Candidates

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**Do you identify as a member of a 2SLGBTQIA+ community?**

No

**What role are you running for?**

Trustee-Cambridge & North Dumfries

**What do you believe are the most critical issues for the local 2SLGBTQIA+ community? If elected, how would you work with the local community to address these issues?**

Speaking about the youth, making sure that they are safe and free from discrimination and providing them with the necessary supports like housing (many have to leave home) and mental health.

**Have you ever participated in 2SLGBTQIA+ Cultural Competency Training?**

I have had some equity training through the board but I would be open to training specific to the 2SLGBTQIA+ community

**Systemic homophobia, biphobia, and transphobia are still prevalent in our community, resulting in significant socioeconomic disparities within 2SLGBTQIA+ communities. If elected, how will you combat homophobia, biphobia, and transphobia?**

Continue to be an ally and expose discrimination wherever it occurs

**If elected, how would you address the ongoing issues of homelessness and mental health, especially as they disproportionately affect members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community?**

Affordable housing is needed for many groups in our community and I will continue to advocate for more affordable housing. I am a strong advocate for increased mental health supports and I will continue to lobby the Ministry of education for additional funding.

**Do you agree with the statement that "trans rights are human rights, and must be protected as such?"**

Yes, the transgender youth in our community are facing increased harassment and discrimination. I'm glad to work with our transgender youth and their families to support them however I can.

**What is one motion would you bring to council that you think will improve the lives of specifically queer people, racialized individuals and/or marginalized residents and why?**

Just last week I served a motion asking staff to investigate free bus passes for secondary school students Based on a model currently an operation in Kingston. This would help any of our marginalized or vulnerable students as they would have access to free transportation.

**When thinking about our schools, do you agree that 2SLGBTQIA+ representation in books and lessons is critical at all grade levels? How would you support 2SLGBTQIA+ students in schools?**

Yes I do agree that we should have literature that reflects all of our students. We need to make sure that for example students with two dads can see themselves reflected in lesson plans and in books available in the library