

IELECT Candidate Questionnaire

IELECT Hamilton is asking every candidate for Council to complete this online questionnaire to provide residents with information regarding your campaign platform.

Please complete the following questionnaire. IELECT Hamilton will post your unedited responses on our website. The questionnaire is structured using the six priorities identified in our research of municipalities across Canada.

Email *

bobhurstward5@gmail.com

Name: *

Bob Hurst

Running for: *

Mayor

Councillor

If councillor, which ward are you running in:

- Ward 1
- Ward 2
- Ward 3
- Ward 4
- Ward 5
- Ward 6
- Ward 7
- Ward 8
- Ward 9
- Ward 10
- Ward 11
- Ward 12
- Ward 13
- Ward 14
- Ward 15

Which ward do you currently reside in: *

- Ward 1
- Ward 2
- Ward 3
- Ward 4
- Ward 5
- Ward 6
- Ward 7
- Ward 8
- Ward 9
- Ward 10
- Ward 11
- Ward 12
- Ward 13
- Ward 14
- Ward 15
- Other:

Campaign website:

www.bobhurst.ca

Campaign Email: *

info@bobhurst.ca

I - Infrastructure

A Leader who inclusively improves Hamilton's neighbourhoods, parks, playgrounds, roads, bridges, community centres, and waste water treatment facilities.

1. What three things are you most concerned about and would like to see changed as they relate to Hamilton's current infrastructure needs? *

We have a significant infrastructure debt that needs to be addressed. The main areas of concern are:
our roads
our sewers, and
our community facilities, such as arenas, playgrounds, and other shared use buildings.

2. As a councillor, what three actions would you propose to improve Hamilton's infrastructure? *

1. We need to make sure that we are ready to do work along the major construction work for the LRT. Since the roads will already need to be redone in this corridor, we need to take advantage of the opportunity to get much needed utility work done there while we have the chance.
2. We need to make sure are prioritizing the work that needs to be done, and have a rough timeline on when the work should be done.
3. Lastly, we will need to plan and budget accordingly, and not leave future councils with the burden of the inevitable emergency repairs that will be needed if the work doesn't get done when it needs to be done.

E - Economy

A leader who strengthens the overall financial health and prosperity of Hamilton and all its diverse residents, through better and more secure jobs, a living wage, housing availability and affordability, and access to public services.

1. What three things are you most concerned about and would like to see changed as they relate to Hamilton's current economy? *

Housing affordability is the most pressing challenge at the municipal level.

Income levels for Hamilton residents have not kept pace with those rising housing prices, so we need to bring quality jobs to this city as well.

Food security challenges many in our city. We need to make sure that everyone in our city is able to put food on the table for their families.

2. As a councillor, what three actions would you propose to improve Hamilton's economy? *

1. We need to develop a specific plan to increase housing in Hamilton. By having more viable housing options available, increasing the supply will temper the demand.

2. We need to continue to promote Hamilton as a world class city, one with a large pool of quality candidates for good, well-paying jobs.

3. We need to increase city services to those underserved areas in order to move away from the area rating system, which was intended as a temporary measure when amalgamation took place. In particular, the LRT system gives our city a chance to take a look at our transit system and how to make it more effective and reach all of our citizens.

L - Leadership

A leader who treats all residents with respect and dignity, pushes for transparency and good governance, inspires others through a bold vision, and takes innovative, equitable and evidence-based decisions to better serve all Hamiltonians.

1. What three things are you most concerned about and would like to see changed as they relate to Hamilton's current leadership at Council? *

We need to make sure that our city council is an environment of collaboration and cooperation.

We need to be as open as we can be with the citizens we represent. In the information age, trying to keep information from public view can often be more damaging than admitting our mistakes and working to improve.

Lastly, we need to make those bold decisions that move us forward together as a city. Too many times in our city's history, we have not been able to unite behind a vision for the betterment of the entire city.

2. As a councillor, what three actions would you propose to improve the city' leadership? *

1. I am open to listen to the opinions of others, and respect that others may have a viewpoint that I have not considered. I will strive to listen to those opinions and make informed decisions as a result.
2. I will aim to be as open as transparent as we are able, to make decisions and agreements for the public good in clear public view.
3. I recommend that all councillors, new and experienced, take some courses on unconscious bias, effective feedback, and other educational opportunities to make us a more responsive and constructive council. There is always an opportunity for self-improvement.

E - Environment

A leader who champions actions to address climate change to ensure a healthy, safe, and sustainable environment for all current and future Hamiltonians.

1. What three things are you most concerned about and would like to see changed as they relate to improving Hamilton's current environment? *

- We need to protect our green spaces and the farmland surrounding our urban boundary.
 We need to get more people using public transit or other eco-friendly methods of travel.
 We need to keep our waterways and our sewers clean and make sure to promptly deal with any issues that arise, tackling the little problems before they become big problems.

2. As a councillor, what three actions would you propose to improve Hamilton's environment? *

Having a clear plan on how we will accommodate the anticipated housing needs for our city has to be a priority. If the city doesn't have a clear vision on how we will accomplish these goals, the provincial government will mandate a solution upon our city, and that mandate may not respect the community's desire to build up and not build out.

C - Community

A leader who fights for the needs of a diverse, equitable, and inclusive population and who improves community engagement so the voices of all Hamiltonians are heard.

1. What three things are you most concerned about and would like to see changed as they relate to supporting the needs of all communities in Hamilton? *

We still have many of the old divides of amalgamation hanging on our city. We need to move forward, united as one city, for the betterment of all of its citizens.

When a major project like the LRT is set to take place, those outside of the lower city don't see the benefits; the city needs to do a better job explaining how improvements to one area of the city impact and improve the overall quality of life in the entire city.

We have seen an influx of many new residents to Hamilton recently, and we need to present a strong identity as a city, to welcome these new neighbours to the city of Hamilton family.

2. As a councillor, what three actions would you propose to support Hamilton's communities? *

Services such as transit should be improved to the outer areas of the city, allowing us to finally eliminate area rating.

Public awareness campaigns should be done to explain the expected benefits of the LRT, particular to residents of the upper city, so that they have a better understanding of the LRT's immediate impact, and the long-term plans of the BLAST network.

The city's marketing team should focus on how to get new residents of Hamilton to become aware of what we offer, from recreation centres, parks, libraries, museums, and so much more. The city should have a presence at community gatherings to promote the city as a whole, and each community's part in the overall city.

T - Transportation

A leader who supports safe, effective movement throughout the city for all Hamiltonians by ensuring access to equitable and affordable public transit, safe roads, sidewalks, bike lanes, and trails.

1. What three things are you most concerned about and would like to see changed as they relate to Hamilton's current transportation needs? *

The motor vehicle collision numbers this, particularly the increase involving pedestrian injuries and fatalities.

There seems to be an overall increase in the aggression and frustration on our roads. While not unique to Hamilton, it's not something we can ignore, either.

Our city's transit system needs to be reviewed to align with the incoming LRT and prepare for future portions of the BLAST network.

2. As a councillor, what three actions would you propose to improve Hamilton's transportation systems? *

We need to look at increasing police enforcement of traffic violations. Seeing drivers holding onto their phones at an intersection is becoming more commonplace, and people need to be reminded that distracted driving is against the law.

We need to do a public awareness campaign, encouraging drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians to respect each other on the roads and take care when using the roads. Advertising could be geared to target audiences, using impactful messaging to encourage everyone to exercise more caution and respect on the roads.

The HSR system needs to be reviewed to see what routes should be modified to effectively interact with the LRT when the system is launched, as well as how to incorporate the outer areas of our city within our transit plan.

This form was created inside of ielect Hamilton.

Google Forms