

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 *

keanin@voteloomis.ca

Name: *

Keanin Loomis

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:

<https://voteloomis.ca>

Campaign Email: *

keanin@voteloomis.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? *

1. Getting LRT built - our city currently has a large backlog of infrastructure that needs maintenance and repair along the LRT route. It has to be repaired whether we build LRT or not and this will cost money. The \$3.4 billion in federal/provincial funding for LRT will let us replace this infrastructure outright and let the city invest its own funds elsewhere - it will also mean we can stop debating LRT and focus on other important issues!

2. It is getting far too costly to live in Hamilton. We must prioritize housing along our major transit routes to help increase the supply of housing in Hamilton, control inflation in our housing market and supporting intensification along key corridors. These actions will bolster our local economy, preserve our urban boundary and keep infrastructure costs - and taxes - low. Moreover, we must ensure that deeply affordable housing is included in our future development projects to provide options for all Hamiltonians to continue to live, work and play in this community.

3. Getting better value for our money, especially when it comes to our roads - the City isn't getting good value for the millions of dollars spent yearly on roadwork and repairs and this needs to change. There are very sensible recommendations from the City Auditor's report but the city hasn't followed them. We must create a plan to fund and implement these recommendations, and then look to other areas in which we can improve our processes.

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

1. Audit city spending to make sure Hamilton is getting the best value for its money. You can see more details on my plan to fix the roads at <https://voteloomis.ca/updates/platform-fix-the-roads/>

2. Fast-track the LRT to secure the promised \$3.4 billion in funds from the federal and provincial governments and the ensuing investments from development and new business along the route. Start planning for A-Line right away.

3. Prioritize new housing developments along major transit routes to prevent tax increases associated with rising infrastructure and increase the supply of housing units. You can see our plan to build 50,000 new homes in Hamilton over the next 10 years here: <https://voteloomis.ca/updates/platform-homes-for-hamilton/>

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? *

1. We need to invest more in our Economic Development initiatives to get new investment across the finish line. New investors are attracted to Hamilton, but we need to make sure we have the staff to get new businesses up and running, creating more jobs.

2. We need to build LRT. Putting the brakes on the LRT now, after the deal has basically been signed, would be an economic disaster for Hamilton. Not only would we lose out on the \$3.4 billion in federal and provincial infrastructure funds, putting Hamiltonians on the hook for the costs of replacing billions in infrastructure. Hamilton taxpayers would also have to pay cancellation costs, which could number as high as \$150 million dollars. Anyone who is suggesting we put the brakes on LRT now isn't being honest with you. The train has left the station.

3. We need to continue our transition to diversify our employment sectors by attracting new investment to grow our key sectors, including healthcare, steel, tech, arts and culture, manufacturing, agriculture, agri-food & food packaging, cannabis, etc. We also have a unique competitive advantage in agri-food and food processing due to our location and that will provide jobs, while also stabilizing the food chain. Investing in Economic Development and committing to creating 4,000 jobs in four years are key priorities of mine.

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

1. Investing in Economic Development to help businesses get their doors open, to scale up, and to create jobs. As Mayor, I am committed to increasing our Economic Development budget by \$1M annually. We have tremendous opportunities at both the Bayfront and the Airport - these are very different areas and need resources to ensure that jobs come to these lands.

2. Mayor's open door for all small businesses - we will reach out directly to small businesses to hear ideas, opportunities and challenges so that the mayor's office is working together with business to support these key economic drivers that provide vital employment and economic activity. As part of this, facilitate incentives for women and visible minority business owners to set up or grow their business, and to participate in exclusive mentoring, knowledge-sharing and networking opportunities. It's about time our city provides a platform for these groups.

3. Partnering with and supporting Hamilton's businesses and institutions to secure decarbonization dollars on our path to net-zero. Our climate emergency demands that we collaborate with innovators to solve our global and local challenges. Advance McMaster Innovation Park as an economic engine in the new Hamilton economy based on advancements in health care, transportation, and industrial decarbonization and create a Clean Tech Hub to maintain our competitive advantage and attract new clean tech jobs.

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? *

1. The culture of toxicity and bullying has been tolerated for far too long by our City Hall leadership, and in recent months, has been on display for our entire city to see. This hostile environment is not productive and causes talented civil servants to seek employment elsewhere, which limits our ability to provide service to the people of Hamilton. It is time our leadership puts its foot down on this workplace behaviour and commits to respect, inclusivity, and accountability.

2. Citizens do not have reliable access to the leadership at City Hall and do not feel engaged in the decisions made in their communities. I will establish community councils in every community to give citizens direct access to the Mayor about the issues that matter to them most.

3. The process for approving projects, the continued kicking of the can down the road instead of making decisions when they are crucially needed. We need investment in jobs, supporting small and medium businesses, ensuring businesses can build in our City and are welcomed to our City.

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

1. We announced that in the first year of our mandate, we will hold a town hall with the councillor in every ward to hear directly from people about the issues that matter to them and to consult on how they want to see services delivered in their areas. <https://voteloomis.ca/updates/platform-town-hall-tour/>

2. Updating the City's Code of Conduct for Council Members. I am committed to healthy, good-faith debate and an environment where all are respected. As Mayor, I will establish the Mayor's Statement of Respect and read it at the beginning of every Council meeting.

3. We need to reshape citizen engagement with City Hall by reimagining Committee Structure and participation opportunities, emphasizing proactive citizen engagement on transformative policy and incorporating citizen feedback into Council decisions. Hamilton has many many talented people who are disengaged with the City because of the way citizens are treated. This ends under my watch.

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? *

1. Clean. Up. Cootes. This is a pressing issue of both trust and environmental responsibility. We must do so in partnership with local Indigenous communities.

2. We must work to eliminate future stormwater discharges into our waterways. Decoupling our combined sewers will take time and significant resources, but that doesn't mean we aren't obligated to keep our drinking water sources safe.

3. As a manufacturing City, historically, Hamilton has a blue-collar identity, but we also have an opportunity to address climate change in a post industrial economy. We must work very hard to support our industries and equally we must support our citizens who feel the impacts of emissions and climate change. This includes our industrial decarbonization strategy and support for a hydrogen hub here in Hamilton. For citizens, the impacts of climate change must be addressed through investing in infrastructure to address flooding, protecting the urban boundary, investing in transit, more parks and green space, and enhancing our creeks and streams.

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

1. A full and transparent cleaning up of the 24 billion litres of sewage carelessly dumped into Cootes Paradise.

2. Coordinate, fund and implement the City of Hamilton 5-year Economic Development Strategy, the Community Energy and Emissions Plan, the Bayfront Industrial Strategy and the recommendations of the Corporate Climate Change Task Force through an equity, diversity and inclusivity lens.

3. Take an environmental lens to the replacement and improvement of our crumbling infrastructure, so that future generations are not saddled with the mistakes of the past, like we have been. Commit to green procurement standards for select municipal RFPs, including the City's fleet and buildings.

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? *

1. We are not adequately protecting targeted communities against growing incidents of hate. The new Council and City staff need to go through EDI training, we must encourage hate crime enforcement and we must support and protect all targeted communities to demonstrate clearly that hate has no home in Hamilton. In particular, we must do more to value, respect and support our Indigenous and 2SLGBTQIA+ communities. Pride 2019 created an open wound that has yet to heal. As Mayor it is important to me that relationships with all equity-seeking communities are founded on respect and active allyship.

2. Newcomers need greater support as they settle in the city so they get the chance to prosper. And we must create complete communities with particular attention to considerations of equity, inclusivity, and sustainability.

3. Many citizens feel unheard and disconnected from City Hall, especially those in the amalgamated and rural communities. We are holding pre-campaign town halls across Hamilton to gain citizen feedback and share our vision for the City. And we will host, with each councillor, a town hall in every ward in my first year in office.

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

1. No Hate in Hamilton. Make Hamilton a welcoming and safe place to live. Bring community leaders and organizations together to create and implement our community plan of action against racism and hate (DJNO, HARRC). I will listen to the lived experiences and opinions of citizens on matters of reconciliation, anti-racism, and update the City's anti-racism protocol as it relates to police, fire and ambulance services.

2. Supporting and nurturing the development of newcomers to Hamilton as they settle in their new homes. Increase the presence of the Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council, including the expansion of Newcomer Day.

3. Create citizen councils in each ward to help with the organization of our town halls so citizens can be heard by the Mayor's office.

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? *

1. Hamilton's city planning and design has been stuck in a car-centric mindset. My biggest fear when my children leave for school is on our streets. It's important that we minimize commute times so you can spend more time living your life when you're not at work, but it's also important that our streets are safe and supportive of liveability, vibrancy and commerce. We cannot be a City where we wait for people to have catastrophic injuries or deaths before we act. We must be proactive in designing our streets for safety.

2. Transit, complete streets, protected bike lanes and roads that aren't riddled with potholes will all make for a safer, healthier Hamilton. When it comes to transit, I won't stop at LRT; we need to build all five major transit lines and bring excellent transit to all of Hamilton's many underserved communities as we phase out Area Rating.

3. We must continue to support the movement of goods through and around our city. The airport and port are major job creators and, with municipal support, can continue to grow. I support trucks being taken off our Downtown streets, but we can also remove bottlenecks with projects like the Highways 5 and 6 interchange that will make it more efficient to get goods to market.

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

1. Set up a robust communication plan to support businesses and homeowners/residents along the LRT construction route. We need to be proactive about communication and respond immediately when issues arise. We must also hold the construction consortium to account, insisting that they finish on-time and on-budget. As Mayor I will have one staff person responsible for all LRT matters with a direct line to me. I will also be part of Council's LRT Committee and I will insist that the Committee meets.

2. Build all five major transit lines. Because transit planning takes so long, we must start planning for the A Line immediately so that we're ready to start building immediately after B-Line construction has been completed. People need better transit now and I am committed to delivering both the immediate priorities and the longer term.

3. I am committed to free transit for students and seniors being implemented in the next four years.

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