

# 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 \*

info@electtuckward4.ca

Name: \*

Eric Tuck

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:

electtuckward4.ca .....

Campaign Email: \*

info@electtuckward4.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. Hamilton is suffering from a \$3.2B infrastructure deficit which is a huge concern for the future of Hamilton. We would immediately like to see a change in how these issues are handled on a City-wide basis by supporting a Municipal 311 program. This would allow more ease in reporting concerns as well as a more transparent system. Our current system means it is incumbent on the resident to frequently lobby for easy fixes that ultimately save Hamilton money, I think it

2. Water, roads and even the internet are all impacted on a daily basis with water-main breaks, crumbling roads and outages. Each system is in need of investment in order to prevent future disasters of even larger impacts. The \$3.4B LRT Project could also positively impact the much-needed repairs and upgrades to essential infrastructure along that main corridor. We must ensure this works is done with as much oversight and key environmental planning to ensure we are responsible in meeting our future growth needs.

3. Pedestrian, cyclist and crosswalk safety particularly in neighbourhoods and along major roads. We need to ensure we have safe and accessible cross-walks with a serious commitment to safe streets infrastructure such as Pedestrian barriers, activation signage and active mobile enforcement. Ward 4 has not had a Safer Streets Audit like others, and I would like to see that implemented right away.

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

1. The \$3.4B LRT Project is a big opportunity to address much needed infrastructure repair along that main corridor to meet the needs our current and future growth requires. I will also advocate and lobby senior levels of government for immediate infrastructure funding to address road safety improvements, recreation centres falling into disrepair, as well as water treatments and disaster adaptation and mitigation.

2. Implement a more modern and efficient reporting and tracking system for road maintenance and repair in the form of a Municipal 311 System, one that utilizes existing staff and new technologies to ensure better road management.

3. Water, roads and even the internet are all impacted on a daily basis with water-main breaks, crumbling roads and outages. Each system is in need of investment in order to prevent future disasters of even larger impacts.

### 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. Lack of truly affordable, geared to income housing.

2. A diversified local economy that takes advantage of our current industrial sector but also promotes and safeguards local small businesses.

3. Ensure that as a major employer we are providing and promoting Living Wage jobs throughout the region.

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

1. Hamilton must seriously address the lack of affordable and dignified housing for mixed incomes. We must immediately increase funding for the existing spaces and their repairs while also funding many new spaces for mixed-income households. We must also use by-laws in order to improve and change restrictive zoning and mixed-use buildings. The LRT project has also led to a massive change in housing across the city and it is important that Hamilton is looking to adequately replace and improve the spaces that were lost and sold off by developers. I do believe that this investment gives us a unique opportunity to start addressing a very serious shortage of affordable housing. If we can negotiate that all excess lands from this project go to the city specifically for affordable housing as we know the Federal government has set aside dedicated funding for housing. Hamilton needs to tap into those resources. We could also implement a very aggressive inclusionary zoning by-law, as well as approving alternative housing initiatives such as co-operative housing, tiny homes or shared co-housing. There are also many important organizations in Hamilton that are helping champion this issue, and it would be important to make sure we were working alongside these organizations like HATS, YWCA, and Kiwanis.

2. Greater efforts globally to promote and market Hamilton as a key place to do business with our airport, ports and transportation infrastructure linking us to major markets across North America and Internationally. Small and local business supports including:

- Interim Supports during construction for business along LRT and post-pandemic recovery supports such as restart promotional funded grants/loans

- Active and consistent consultation with businesses, particularly those disrupted by the LRT to ensure accessibility and communication regarding the disruptions to allow them to prepare and survive.

3. LRT- This major 3.4 Billion dollar infrastructure investment is not just a Transit project, if done right it has the potential to be a major Transformational project. Not just to move passengers across this great city but to be a key economic driver that could propel this community forward for future generations. The province has committed to covering any overages should the project go over budget. Now that the project is going ahead no matter what, it has the opportunity to be a real investment in Hamilton's future and I want to see that Hamilton sees returns directly from this project, not just the developers. We can do this by:

- Sourcing all the materials that will be used to replace the infrastructure and build the line locally from our own steel plants.

- Ensure the LRT is publicly owned, maintained and operated publicly and run by HSR. This will bring more stable and consistent good-paying jobs to Hamilton that will help families put food on the table.

- Not privately contracting out this project, but seeing that we do this work in house, with strong, good paying, union jobs that once again will help families put food on the table.

- LRT construction will also create more opportunities for skilled-trade apprenticeships and contribute to more stable jobs for the folks of Hamilton and Ward 4.

## 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. City Council has hit a point where there is no meaningful collaboration or openness to new ideas among many members. It is essential Council has a desire to work together to ultimately see projects effectively through.
2. More accountability, transparency and clearer communication to residents around major city projects, developments, and initiatives especially around environmental and safety concerns.
3. Provide a more effective leadership that encourages an environment that attracts the highest level of talented leaders of commerce, healthcare and innovation to our city.

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

1. Integrity and a desire to collaborate and work together in order to see-through the much needed and very important projects needed and slated for Hamilton. My time living in Ward 4 as well as a bus operator with HSR has given me a lot of experience already collaborating with Hamiltonians from all walks of life. It is important that those elected to Council have a history of collaboration. My experience as a union leader has also given me a lot of experience negotiating and fighting on behalf of my fellow frontline workers. I would bring this same strong leadership to council on behalf of Ward 4.
2. Work in an open and transparent way that solicits and encourages input from my ward residents and service/community groups. This can be done with frequent participation in Neighbourhood Associations, public meetings, and townhalls.
3. Encourage resident participation in City Council and Committee meetings. It is important residents are heard and for that to happen the City can do a better job of notifying residents around projects that are going to impact them. It's also important to note that the current by-laws only require notification around certain projects within a very small surrounding area. These projects often impact residents that are further than 120 metres away, and I would like to see the by-law reflect that.

## 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. We need to continue to build our city "up" and not "out" by making best use of current spaces and will also be largely supported by the LRT project.
2. Our goal of net-zero emissions by 2050, and Hamilton's current carbon footprint needs.
3. Follow through on our current climate change strategy.

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

1. Continue to advocate for Hamilton Transit through HSR and our LRT project and transit initiatives that are making best use of current spaces to prevent us from encroaching on any future green spaces for development. I would also push to have materials for the LRT to be sourced locally.
2. Push for additional oversight into our net-zero promises and climate change strategy to ensure an environmental lens is applied to all major city projects.
3. Ensure needed resources are in place to fund necessary environmental infrastructure to meet the growing demands of future population growth and responsible sustainable development well cleaning up our historical mistakes during the industrial revolutionary period.

### 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. A growing acceptance of hate and intolerance in community spaces
2. Lack of training and education for staff and committees to provide open and welcoming inclusionary recognition to ensure equitable input and participation.
3. Greater celebration and community support resources for cultural and diverse community events.

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

1. Ensure that we enforce a zero tolerance policy and encourage acceptance, tolerance and understanding for equal enjoyment for all in our city's spaces/services. I would also push for greater accessibility measures on our main streets like Kenilworth so that pedestrians don't experience barriers simply trying to travel on our streets.

2. Provide more mandatory training to all city staff and committee members to ensure we are providing and encouraging equal opportunity for inclusionary participation and input.

3. Provide greater support and resources to the Arts, cultural community groups, diversity organizations and events /festivals who promote, foster and encourage the basic principles of acceptance, tolerance and understanding without prejudice. I see an excellent opportunity to also mix our goals of celebrating our green spaces and diversity by combining the two into public engagement initiatives that allow families and residents to engage in arts and culture programming sustainably in these green spaces

## 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.- Stop treating Accessible Transit as a charity and incorporate DARTS into our fully accessible public transit system of HSR.

2. Lack of a fully funded and planned safe streets assessment and action plan in Ward 4, particularly as it relates to on/off ramps as Ward 4 contains a heavy amount of industrial and residential traffic/commuting. The current city-wide street assessment does not take into account highways and their on and off ramps, which are a major safety concern in Ward 4.

3. Lack of a creative multi-model transit system that can be utilized and adapted to provide a fully accessible, efficient, safe and affordable transit system that can meet the needs of every Hamilton citizen regardless of where you live.

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

1. Bring Darts in house by 2024 and utilize new technology and smaller electric accessible mini fleet to provide fully accessible community transit throughout the entire city.

2. Eliminate the Area rating for Transit by end of 2024 and implement a 2025-2035 plan to extend full public transit service to every corner of the City

3. Implement LRT to be fully operated and maintained by HSR to ensure local control and that all future revenues go back into supporting the highest safety and efficiency of our public transit system for generations to come.

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