

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 *

mdtadeson@gmail.com

Name: *

Mark Tadeson

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.tadeson4glanbrook.ca

Campaign Email: *

mdtadeson@gmail.com

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) Equitable access to recreation facilities for rural communities.
- 2) Safety on village streets, rural roads and highways for all who use them
- 3) Improved Digital Infrastructure and Access to Affordable Reliable Highspeed Internet

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

- 1) I will work with residents, city staff, other levels of government and investigate public/private partnerships if necessary to bring a new recreation centre to Glanbrook. Ideally this will include an indoor pool, gymnasium, walking track and multi-purpose rooms and upgrades for Glanbrook Arena. The City's Recreation Master Plan states that our community based on population does not warrant an indoor pool. I will challenge that position. Our first step will be to bring water and sewers to the site and determine the long-term viability of the current arena.
- 2) I will work with citizens and city staff to identify concerns, assess and follow-up on safety recommendations that improve safety on our highways, rural roads and neighbourhood streets as quickly as possible. Arterial Roads such as Upper James and Highway 56 require widening, shoulder enhancements and safety barriers. I will collaborate with City Staff to ensure timely responses to hazardous conditions on rural roads. I will look to act on recommendations that improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists in our villages.
- 3) Covid has highlighted that access to reliable high speed internet is an equity issue. I will support actions that bring more access to public Wi-Fi throughout our City. I will support city staff to encourage service providers to enhance their broadband networks and bring affordable and reliable Highspeed internet to those that live and work in rural communities.

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) Support for Rural Economy.

2) Housing availability, affordability and choice

3) Skilled and Adaptable Workforce that meets the demands of our current and future commercial and industrial needs

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

1) I will leverage my position to support our local economy in Glanbrook. I will support our farming community in their quest to upgrade, innovate and adapt new technologies that increase their productivity and sustain their viability into the future. I will prioritize agricultural initiatives from this community and push for quick resolutions to permit issues from City Staff. I will push for better services in Rural Centres. It's difficult to understand why some amenities are not available in Binbrook and Mt. Hope. I will encourage developers and entrepreneurs that show initiative to bring these needed services to our villages. We need to look at the barriers, find workable solutions and creatively cut red tape.

2) Housing availability, affordability and choice. The City's stance on Holding to the current Urban Boundary is a welcome sign for many rural residents. Others however feel that in the long term, this action will create a crisis in the supply for choice and availability of housing and drive home prices up further. As our City embarks upon a process of infill and intensification along major transit lines both below and on the mountain, I support that we monitor our City's housing needs taking a 'wait and see' perspective before expanding the boundary. There is no doubt that as our industrial and commercial base grows in Hamilton, more workers will come and they will need housing that is affordable and meets their needs. If there is evidence that our housing market demands are greater than the supply, we will need to be proactive, expand the urban boundary on a 'needs basis' that is reasonable and support new residential development that respects the need to reduce land usage, preserves as much agricultural land as possible and creates communities with ample green space for all. It is my hope that most see there can be a fair and reasonable approach to expanding the urban boundary in Hamilton if demands warrant it in the future.

3) Skilled and Adaptable Workforce that meets the demands of our current and future commercial and industrial needs. There is a need for a skilled and adaptable workforce in our city. As mentioned our industrial and commercial base is growing and there is a need for succession planning by existing businesses and institutions if they are to remain competitive. I will support continuing and expanding innovative partnerships with local business, institutions of higher learning, boards of education and other levels of government to ensure our City has a ready workforce in the Hamilton area that can better meet labour demands now and in the future.

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? *

Three concerns I have involve

- (1) respect amongst council members and the treatment of city staff,
 - (2) fiscal responsibility
 - (3) and the push for transparency, accountability and productivity.
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2. As a councillor, what three actions would you propose to improve the city' leadership? *

I would implement a set of 'council and committee meeting' expectations that cater to respectful dialogue and issues-oriented debate that focuses discussions on facts and finding solutions. I would set these norms into a contract that requires signing by all candidates as a precondition to running for Council. Protocols and consequences would be clearly set out for breaches with all councillors being expected to personally uphold and hold others to these norms when misconduct happens.

I would consider implementing a process where all councillors were required to receive professional financial training regarding Municipal budgets and the various sources of revenue available to a city, so as to increase the likelihood of sound decisions.

Transparency, accountability and productivity are values to which we all should aspire. Ethical guidelines for transparency should be created and followed by councillors. We also need to devise a system with performance indicators and incentives that helps improve accountability and productivity for all who work in our city.

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) For rural residents, urban sprawl is always a concern.
 - 2) Garbage, Pollution and Green House Gases
 - 3) Climate Emergencies
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2. As a councillor, what three actions would you propose to improve Hamilton's environment? *

1) Urban Sprawl

For rural residents, urban sprawl and loss of green space is always a concern. Existing residents that live on the border of expansion fear a loss of lifestyle, privacy and agricultural lands with new developments. Most people understand that as our population grows, some day there will be a need for expansion. But that urban expansion needs to make sense. We need to ensure that future residential and industrial development respects the need to reduce land usage and preserves as much farmland and green space as possible while also managing that the housing market remains affordable and provides choice for new consumers. Woodlands, wetlands and watershed need to be protected and there are creative ways that developers can build around and incorporate these ecosystems into their plans. All governments need to mandate that Developers adapt and use only the best practices of Sustainable Community Development that prioritize our natural environment and improve quality of life.

2) Garbage, Pollution and Green House Gases

In Glanbrook, we need to respond to litter and illegal dumping in a systematic and timely manner. We need to review the status of the City Dump in our Ward and encourage recycling patterns and innovative practices that reduce our dependence upon it.

I will support the City's efforts to promote Hamilton as a destination of choice for innovative businesses that lead in green initiatives. We need to attract commercial and industrial developments that are willing to support remediation of Brownfields, decarbonization and the greening of our economy. We need to support the procurement of Hybrid and Electric buses that coordinate with our LRT to reduce GHGs within our transportation sector. We need to encourage and incentivize current businesses to adapt technology that improve efficiencies and reduce GHGs.

3)Climate Emergencies

We need to prepare for climate emergencies. The effects of extreme heat and cold, draught and flooding, ice storms and other climate emergencies are happening more often and the effects can be devastating to an unprepared community. I will support our City's efforts to proactively address the Impacts of Climate Emergencies. I will support the adaptation of actions plans by the City that make us ready to address various emergencies. I will encourage that we create a reserve fund that can be accessed for such emergencies .

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) Fostering Positive Community Engagement
 - 2) Mental Health
 - 3) Equity and support for marginalized groups
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2. As a councillor, what three actions would you propose to support Hamilton's communities? *

- 1) I would conduct surveys, initiate town hall meetings and citizen committees and have an open table at community events so citizens can voice opinions, collectively organize and informally raise concerns on a person level. I would also promote local organizations and the recruitment of volunteers at these venues.
 - 2) I would support the implementation of Hamilton's Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan that builds partnerships with local service providers and facilitates trained specialists going into the community to deliver information on available mental health services to at-risk individuals in locations where they are comfortable.
 - 3) Finally, I would initiate Equity, Diversity and Inclusion training for all City staff. I am encouraged by the adaptation of our City to follow policies of equity that recognize systemic issues concerning marginalization for at-risk groups. Many of us have always taken for granted that we would be treated fairly when seeking employment or any other opportunity. For our BIPOC and LGBTQ2+ citizens, we know this has not been their reality. Now that we know better, we need to continue to do better to educate and ensure all can work and live in conditions free from harassment, discrimination and hate.
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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. Safer Streets and Roads for all
 2. Moving People better
 3. Moving Goods Better
-

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

1. Safer Streets and Roads for all.

I would Expand 'complete streets' projects that provide infrastructure for enhanced walkable streets, safer cycling and driving traffic. I would also support the completion of the city-wide cycling network.

2. Moving People Better

I would seek improved Public Transit between mountain and lower city through implementation of BLAST and LRT plan for Transit.

I would seek improved Public Transit throughout the Golden horseshoe through increased GO train service with HSR schedules better coordinated to arrival departure times.

I would support the review and systematic implementation of the cycling master plan recommendations for more bike lanes, enhanced shoulders and shared trails throughout the city.

I will encourage a strategic review of our Transit Network for those with mobility challenges (DARTS) to see if there are methods and resources to improve efficiencies and provide better service.

3. Moving Goods Better.

I will support strategic planning and renewed infrastructure that creates safer truck routes from air, rail and sea ports to commercial and industrial zones throughout city. Taking these trucks off our city streets and rural roads improves safety for everyone.

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