

## City of Guelph Ward 5 Candidates\*

\*Responses from additional Ward 5 candidates were not received, including: Scott R. Butler, and Bob Senechal



**Leanne Piper**



**Alex Green**



**Cathy Downer**



**Dimitrios "Jim"  
Galatianos**

### SECTION 1: AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

1. What measures would you support and promote to ensure that individuals and families living in poverty have a safe and affordable place to live?

Increase Affordable Housing reserve account, partnerships with County to build more units, incentives and grants to builders for affordable ownership. Lobby other levels of government for national housing strategy and funding.

Require all new residential developments to contain a minimum of 25% affordable units - Encourage additional residential development and increase efficiency in the approval process for building permits to

I would support an annual budget contribution to a reserve fund. We also need to look at areas that we can provide incentives allowable under the Municipal and Planning Acts. I support eh implementation of the 10 year Housing and Homeless Program. Partner with

Change priorities to make needs come before ego driven wants. The city needs to focus more social issues and infrastructure

	increase the number of available rental units	community organizations that are advocating for affordable housing.	
<b>2. Do you agree to make annual contributions to an affordable housing reserve fund and strategically partner with key stakeholders to utilize the fund as needed? Please explain.</b>			
Yes.	No. I think waiving development charges for affordable housing construction is probably a better way to increase the number of available units. Having a fund may simply create a bank account that builds up but never gets used. We could, however, create a fund that would directly finance 100% of the construction costs of a certain number of affordable housing units per year, to ensure that all the money gets spent.	Yes. While it is using the Federal and Provincial governments that are responsible for affordable housing, the city can also be ready with contributions when programs become available.	Yes. By cutting out waste we will have funds that allow us to focus on these and other social issues.
<b>3. Would you support waiving development charges and other municipal fees for affordable housing geared towards low-income renters? Please explain.</b>			
Yes. As current councillor, I was very supportive of this approach with agencies such as Michael House, Habitat for Humanity and Wyndham House.	Yes. We need more residential development in Guelph. Anything that speeds up the process of building new units would be helpful. More units would lead to more availability and consequently, lower rents.	Yes. I would be willing to look at this in the areas that are permissible under the Municipal and Planning Acts.	Absolutely.

## SECTION 2: INCOME INEQUALITY

### 1. What role can the municipality play in reducing income inequality and income insecurity?

<p>Supporting a Living Wage policy, Affordable Bus Pass, food security programs and investment in neighbourhood support programs.</p>	<p>Ensure all city workers and outside contractors are paid a living wage.</p>	<p>The City can promote secure employment and good quality jobs. We should look to becoming a living wage community. The City can continue to offer recreation, cultural and transportation subsidies for individuals on low incomes.</p>	<p>In Guelph we have to make dealing with City hall easier..."the Guelph Factor"...bring better jobs. Also providing serves to new arrivals to Canada so they can get on their feet. More classes for English as a second language.</p>
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### 2. Would you support and promote a living wage for the City of Guelph (paying all municipal staff a living wage and promoting the living wage among employers)? Please explain.

<p>Yes. Research has shown that Living Wage communities have better health outcomes, lower petty crime, and economic stability as living wage earners spend their money locally.</p>	<p>Yes. Paying the city's workers less than a living wage simply means that they will be more likely to use additional city services, so we'd be paying one way or another, and it's likely more efficient to pay workers directly.</p>	<p>Yes. This is something that would need to be implemented over time.</p>	<p>Yes I work in the Mental Health Field, having a job can be a big part of how one sees themselves. A job where you work full time and yet can not feed you family only creates more harm. We should be better then that.</p>
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## SECTION 3: FOOD INSECURITY

### 1. What municipal food related policies and programs would you support to ensure that people living on low-income have access to healthy and affordable food?

<p>Local community gardens, community orchard initiative, Garden Fresh Box, Food Bank, backyard chickens, and community kitchens are just a few examples.</p>	<p>Food banks, community gardens, information sessions on how to make healthy food choices, perhaps a fund to support the distribution of vouchers to the Guelph Farmers' Market</p>	<p>I would support and advocate with groups like the Task for on Poverty Elimination and SEED to ensure we are doing all we can. I think we should look at an overall Food Security Strategy as there are many in Guelph working on this issue. We need to continue to support and enhance the Garden Fresh Box.</p>	<p>We support the local food bank. We support our farmers markets.</p>
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### 2. Would you commit financial and resource support for improved coordination of emergency food delivery by supporting the Seed Community Food Hub? Please explain.

<p>Yes</p>	<p>Yes. More efficient delivery of services is always a good thing. Additionally, I would support turning some of the city's unused or under-used spaces into community gardens to supply food to the SCFH</p>	<p>Yes. I believe it is important that people have access to healthy food when they need it and accessible to where they live.</p>	<p>Yes. Another example of how city hall can learn from others.</p>
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### 3. Would you support additional funding for local food-based initiatives that increase access to healthy food for those that cannot afford it?

<p>Yes. Community gardens are very popular and should be expanded.</p>	<p>Yes. If the top-down approach of federal and provincial funding isn't working, then we</p>	<p>Yes. As I said earlier, we need an overall food strategy.</p>	<p>Yes. Primary care vs. tertiary care. Deal with the issue before it</p>
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	<p>need to work at the municipal level to increase access to healthy food. It's 2014: We shouldn't have malnourished people in Canada</p>		<p>becomes a problem.</p>
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## SECTION 4: HEALTH INEQUITIES

### 1. What programs and policies would you support to increase health and well-being among low-income communities?

<p>Community Well-being Initiative and neighbourhood group programs and services. Affordable Bus Pass expansion.</p>	<p>A revamp of the Guelph Wellbeing initiative, as it seems to have fallen by the wayside. - Any health initiatives would likely be better handled at the provincial and federal level, so I would advocate for increased funding at those levels</p>	<p>We need to continue to support subsidies for recreational services and transportation. We must advocate with the community for solutions to issues people face when living in poverty.</p>	<p>Working in the field.....more funds.....quicker access.....more reserves.....Transitional care, where workers stay in contact with clients while the clients continues to live in their own home.</p>
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### 2. Do you support the use of municipal funds to ensure that individuals and families living at or below the living wage would have access to subsidies for recreation and cultural events? Please explain.

<p>Yes. FAIR program needs to be advertised more, and community fundraising. More public events and activities such as Market Square movie nights and access to splash pads across the city.</p>	<p>Yes. I'd like to see the city partner with organizations to provide a certain number of subsidized tickets to cultural events.</p>	<p>Yes. We need to support organizations like the Guelph Youth Music Centre the Children's Foundation to ensure all children have access to recreational and cultural activities.</p>	<p>Yes. Absolutely.....personal note.....single Dad myself raising two children full-time.....yes, absolutely.....no question</p>
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