

Councillor Candidates in Guelph Eramosa

Louise Marshall
Ward 3

Section 1 – Affordable Housing & Homelessness

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

If Township council has any control over housing, I would certainly support it. County was given housing responsibilities by the Province 20 years ago.

2. Do you support increasing the annual budget contribution for the affordable housing reserve fund and strategically partnering with key stakeholders to utilize the fund as needed?

If the Township has a housing reserve fund, I would support an increase.

3. Do you support waiving development charges and other municipal fees for affordable housing geared toward low-income renters?

If waiving charges and fees can lessen the cost to the end user, then, yes, I support it.

Section 2 – Income Inequality

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

I think the City and the County have more control in these areas than the Township does.

2. Will you support and promote a living wage within your town/township (paying all municipal staff a living wage and promoting the living wage among employers)?

Promoting a living wage is the first place we can start to lessen poverty in our communities.

3. Will you commit to providing financial and resource support for rural transportation for low-income residents?

I was happy to see Guelph offer subsidized bus passes last year and quickly notified Habitat for Humanity WDG to let their families know.

Section 3 – Food Insecurity

1. What municipal food related policies and programs would you support to ensure that low-income individuals and families have access to healthy and affordable food?

I would work with Township to ensure that all the information on food and programs could be found in one place, easily accessible by anyone in need.

2. Do you support the use of municipal funds to assist local food based initiatives that promote access to healthy and affordable food for people living on a fixed or limited income?

We must show that we care as a Township by providing whatever help is needed for such people.

Section 4 – Health Inequities

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

Social programs, health screening and help filling out forms, if necessary could be introduced.

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?

No one should be left out because of their low income. Subsidies should be provided.

Doug Tripp

Ward 4

Section 1 – Affordable Housing & Homelessness

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

1. waiver of municipal fees and development charges for affordable housing projects; 2. including affordable housing as a priority in the Township's economic development strategy; 3. including poverty elimination as a priority in a Township Sustainability Plan that I intend to champion

2. Do you support increasing the annual budget contribution for the affordable housing reserve fund and strategically partnering with key stakeholders to utilize the fund as needed?

As a proviso to my agreement on this item, and as a potential newcomer to Township Council, I am not aware of provisions for affordable housing currently built into the Township's financial plan.

3. Do you support waiving development charges and other municipal fees for affordable housing geared toward low-income renters?

Yes. As noted in 1., this would be one of my priorities.

Section 2 – Income Inequality

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

One of the priorities in my campaign is economic development within a sustainability framework; GET needs increased commercial and industrial development to provide employment opportunities within a reasonable distance for Township residents. The Township needs to be more proactive in seeking out such development opportunities in partnership with Wellington County and the City of Guelph.

2. Will you support and promote a living wage within your town/township (paying all municipal staff a living wage and promoting the living wage among employers)?

Yes.

3. Will you commit to providing financial and resource support for rural transportation for low-income residents?

Yes. This response is predicated on a financially viable solution involving non-municipality service providers.

Section 3 – Food Insecurity

1. What municipal food related policies and programs would you support to ensure that low-income individuals and families have access to healthy and affordable food?

The sustainability plan that I favour would include measures to link the Township farming community to consumers within which I would strive to include affordability as one of the critical objectives. I would also engage on behalf of the Township with area community support organizations, service clubs and churches to ensure that emergency and supplemental food sources are available.

2. Do you support the use of municipal funds to assist local food based initiatives that promote access to healthy and affordable food for people living on a fixed or limited income?

Yes.

Section 4 – Health Inequities

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

A priority for GET is the development of additional recreational and well-being facilities to keep pace with residential growth and to embrace a "wellness" vision for our community directed at youth, adults and low-income families.

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?

Yes.