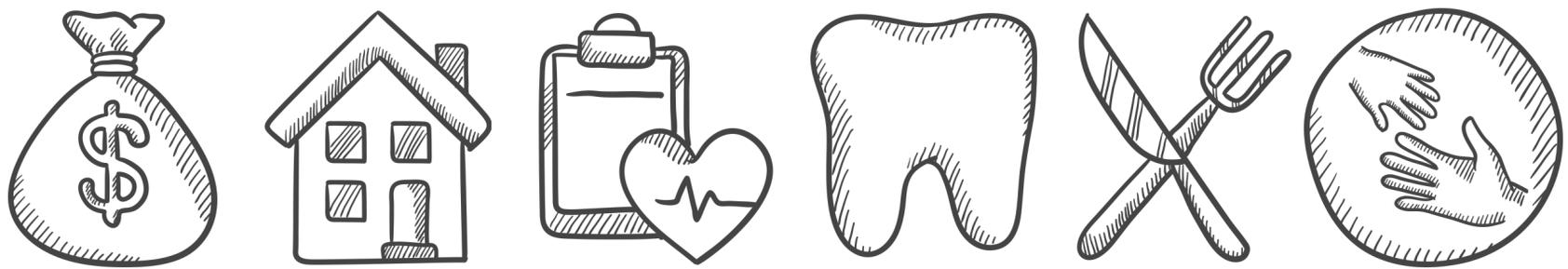


# Guelph

## Candidate Q & A

Provincial Election 2022



### Content Disclaimer:

Candidate responses shared in this document are unedited. Please note that they do not necessarily align with the positions and stances of the Guelph & Wellington Task Force for Poverty Elimination. The Guelph & Wellington Task Force for Poverty Elimination is a non-partisan organization.

All candidates identified on the Elections Ontario website for this riding were invited to participate. Candidates who completed the Question & Answer are represented below.





## QUESTION 1:

Ontario is experiencing an affordable housing crisis. What actions will you and your party take to build, protect, and support deeply affordable housing?



### James Parr, Ontario New Democratic Party

I fully agree that we are in the midst of a housing crisis, and that the answer to address this needs to be comprehensive and most importantly, through the lens of housing being a human right and not an investment. In the short term, I think the answer is stricter rent control, ending vacancy decontrol and ending renovictions, which is what I am proud to say the NDP has proposed in their platform. Moving away from exclusionary zoning is another solution that the NDP is championing and that I have always wholeheartedly supported. We will also build 100,000 new affordable homes and extend the lifespan of 260,000 existing homes.



### Juanita Burnett, Communist Party of Ontario

Top 3: 1. Rent control to cover all rental units and rent rollbacks so no one pays more than 20% of income on housing. 2. A provincial social housing program that treats housing as a public utility and delivers it according to need: build 200,000 units and upgrade existing ones. 3. Regular inspections for all rental housing, with enforced penalties when standards aren't met. For more information, please check out: [www.housingforpeople.ca](http://www.housingforpeople.ca)



### Mike Schreiner, Green Party of Ontario

Housing is a human right. To immediately address the housing affordability crisis in Guelph and across the province we need to implement vacancy and rent controls on all units. And to expand zoning options to include triplexes, fourplexes and walk up apartments as of right. In Guelph, the Star reported that 1 in 5 homes were owned by someone not living in them. Ontario Greens would implement a Multiple Homes Speculation Tax which would apply to new purchases of homes by buyers who already own two or more homes or condominium units. And the Ontario Greens would implement a real plan to address homelessness by taking a Housing First approach. We would build 182,000 affordable homes, and 60,000 permanent supportive housing spaces with wrap-around health and social supports, like Guelph's Kindle, Wyndham House and Grace Garden projects - which I will continue to push for provincial funding for.



### Paul Taylor, None of the Above Direct Democracy

I experienced homeless myself. I also represent many tenants. So, I know what it is like. It's NOT because people are lazy! Encourage growth of housing stock with increased affordable housing. We MUST have a program that stops investment speculation with our housing stock. Currently, homes are converted to multiple units. One tried renting a treehouse in Guelph. Investment speculators claiming this is better. How? All it does is drive housing costs up. The local government has dropped the ball. Now, we MUST have real enforcement at the provincial level! Program that creates real sustainable affordable rental and ownership. To make home ownership possible for everyone. Like those on minimum wage, who have been priced out of even Guelph's rental market. With rent tipping \$2,000 a month, leaving them less than \$400 to live on.



### Raechelle Devereaux, Ontario Liberal Party

Too many people can't afford housing. An Ontario Liberal government will build 1.5 million homes in 10 years, including at least 138,000 deeply affordable homes: 78,000 new social and community homes, 38,000 homes in supportive housing and 22,000 new homes for Indigenous peoples. Ontario Liberals will also provide renters with a pathway to home ownership, creating a legal framework that provides protections and certainty for owners and renters to opt into rent-to-own agreements. And, Ontario Liberals will bring back rent control, to all homes across Ontario, allowing renters to prepare for smaller, more predictable rent increases. For many years, I have worked collectively with partners in Guelph to implement poverty elimination strategies, including permanent supportive housing projects for our community. Our work is not done; I commit to continuing this important work on behalf of my community, if given the honour of serving at Queen's Park.





## QUESTION 2:

Will your party commit to preventing and eliminating homelessness in Ontario and what action will you take so that everyone in Ontario can find a place to call home that meets their needs?



### James Parr, Ontario New Democratic Party

The NDP and I are committed to get to work on the job of ending homelessness and giving more people safe and stable housing options. We will restore the goal of ending chronic homelessness within 10 years. Beyond the measures noted in the previous question, we will also build 60,000 supportive housing units.



### Juanita Burnett, Communist Party of Ontario

Rent control and rent rollbacks would be a start. A \$23/hr minimum wage, price controls on food, fuel and housing, and a full employment strategy, a guaranteed livable (not merely a basic) income program that would raise social assistance and disability rates, expanded universal public services: healthcare including dental and mental health etc., universal quality childcare, needs-based funding for a single, secular school system, and improved public transportation. Progressive tax reform: double corporate income tax rate to 23%, eliminate taxes on personal incomes under \$40,000.



### Mike Schreiner, Green Party of Ontario

The Ontario Greens commit to restoring the goal to end homelessness in 10 years and to adopt a province wide Housing First model. We'd do this by: - building 182,000 affordable community housing rental homes, including 60,000 permanent supportive homes that provide wrap-around supports; - resuming the homelessness census cancelled by the Ford government; - expanding rent control to all units and implementing vacancy control to limit rent increases; - engaging communities who have lived experience with homelessness in program development, as well as communities that face disproportionate levels of homelessness, in program development; - reporting on disaggregated data on the proportion of the population that experiences chronic homelessness, unmet health needs, food insecurity, and low-paid work. And to address poverty at its root level, Ontario Greens would phase in a Basic Income, with the first step being to double ODSP and OW to lift those out in receipt out of legislated poverty.



### Paul Taylor, None of the Above Direct Democracy

Homelessness is a completely preventable and easily solvable problem. One that was caused by the Conservatives & Liberals. Increasing funding supports across all social programs with a goal of helping people not hurting them! Implementing a new social support system that is based on fairness and honesty. That provides enough income support that they can rent a legal property, that provides them dignity. A system that does not judge people based on stigma! For example, the workers compensation system changed from helping workers to hurting them! As a result, the WSIB has a \$30B surplus including the \$1.5B rebate. All the while workers who got hurt at work became homeless, and a burden to society. All the while Big business had record multi-billion dollar profits.



### Raechelle Devereaux, Ontario Liberal Party

I have personally led efforts to end homelessness in Guelph for many years, and I am proud to stand with a Party that pledges to end chronic homelessness in the province of Ontario. Specifically, we'll fund new emergency shelter beds and drastically improve the condition of existing shelters so that there are safe and dignified options for those who need them. The Ontario Liberals will also relaunch the homelessness census data - something I'm proud to say has been in place in Guelph, led by the PTF, for many years. And an Ontario Liberal government will also promote a "housing first" approach to deliver support for people experiencing homelessness. As we know, the solution to homelessness is housing. The OLP has committed to building 38,000 PSH units, 15,000 focusing on mental health and addiction.



### QUESTION 3:

Discrimination and systemic oppression contribute to higher poverty rates experienced by women, people with disabilities, Indigenous people, people of colour, newcomers and people with precarious immigration status. What will you and your party do to alleviate poverty for all people in Ontario?

Will your party implement a basic income guarantee?



#### James Parr, Ontario New Democratic Party

The NDP proposes to tackle this issue from multiple directions. First, we want to increase the minimum wage to \$20/hr so people can be paid fairly and appropriately for their work. Additionally, I fully support the NDP's platform to include pharma care, dental care and mental health care under OHIP, so those bills can be paid with your OHIP card. I am also very excited about the most recent NDP announcement that ODSP and OW rates will be increased by 20% in the first year and then doubled in the second year.

No



#### Juanita Burnett, Communist Party of Ontario

We're calling for a \$23/hour minimum wage, indexed to inflation, and a 32 hour work week with no loss in pay. Our full employment strategy includes expanded manufacturing, social programs, social housing construction, and public ownership of key resources and industries. Enact price controls on food, fuel, and housing, and prosecute price fixing and price gouging. Also, as mentioned above: tax reform, also including abolishing the provincial/harmonized sales tax. Another aspect of fighting discrimination and systemic oppression is to make it easier for everyone to vote, and for our votes to make a difference. We support Mixed Member Proportional Representation (MMP), 'right-to-recall' legislation for all elected offices, reducing the voting age to 16, and allowing all residents to vote.

Yes



#### Mike Schreiner, Green Party of Ontario

Ontario Greens believe in treating people with dignity and fairness and we recognize that systemic racism and the impacts of colonialism lead to poverty, and create barriers to lifting people out of poverty. We would phase in a Basic Income, with the first step being to immediately doubling ODSP and OW rates. Because people receiving social assistance in this province are living in legislated poverty. We would also reform employment and labour legislation to ensure those working in low wage jobs, who are largely women and people of colour, are treated with the dignity they deserve by increasing the minimum wage to \$16 immediately and providing 10 paid sick days. Ontario Greens would also prohibit "payday" lending that takes advantage of those facing financial hardship as a violation of anti-racketeering laws, and work with credit unions to develop a low-cost, small loan alternative to help people get out of debt.

Yes



#### Paul Taylor, None of the Above Direct Democracy

Poverty is a product of neoliberalism - global capitalism. It hit Canada in the later 1990s and wreaked havoc on us all! It allowed business to take control of our government and cut important social programs that prevented such discrimination and oppression to occur. One was funding for legal representation. Another was how Doug Ford when screamed at by landlords, moved all the staff at the Human Rights Tribunal to the LTB. So, evictions can move quicker, and human rights complaints would never be heard. We need to fund legal representation and create a new fairer tribunal system that sits outside government micromanaging. One that ensures the tribunal can hear complaints quickly so, this never happens again!

Yes

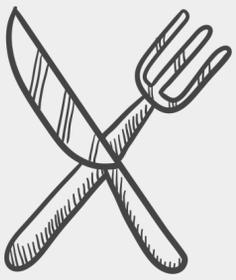


#### Raechelle Devereaux, Ontario Liberal Party

As CEO of the Guelph Community Health Centre, I have dedicated my career to eliminating barriers for those who face them. It was my great honour to serve on the [ODSP Policy Task force] with other Liberal candidates, prior to the election. I am confident that, because of our squad's advocacy, we were able to push our party to increase supports for individuals with disabilities and those on Ontario Works, especially focusing on higher employment income minimums and redefining spousal limitations that result in challenging clawbacks. While I know that we still have much work to do, I am proud to say that this commitment was informed by consultations within Guelph - and others across the province. Our work is not done. I commit to being a relentless leader on economic dignity for all Ontarians, and ensuring that all Guelph residents have equitable access to economic prosperity.

Yes





## QUESTION 4:

Household food insecurity occurs when there is inadequate or insecure access to food due to not having enough money. What income-based interventions will your party implement to help solve this issue?

Will your party increase Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program rates and will you index social assistance rate increases to inflation?



### James Parr, Ontario New Democratic Party

The NDP and I pledge to increase minimum wage to \$20/hr so people can be paid fairly and appropriately for their work. The NDP has also announced that ODSP and OW rates will be increased by 20% in the first year and then doubled in the second year. Further the NDP's platform to include pharma care, dental care and mental health care under OHIP will help reduce costly medical bills for everyday Ontarians. Beyond that, the NDP is also committed to helping Ontarians reduce their monthly bills by regulating the retail price of petroleum products and keep electricity prices low by delivering power at cost, instead of for profit. We also support a Grocery Code of Conduct to improve transparency and fair dealings in the grocery industry

Yes



### Juanita Burnett, Communist Party of Ontario

As mentioned above, a \$23/hour minimum wage, price controls on food and limits on price fixing/gouging, a guaranteed livable income program (our version of a basic income guarantee) that raises social assistance and disability rates to a livable level, and also, an expanded Employment Insurance program to cover all unemployed workers. For more information on our full program, please see: [www.communistpartyontario.ca](http://www.communistpartyontario.ca)

Yes



### Mike Schreiner, Green Party of Ontario

The Ontario Greens would immediately double social assistance rates as the first step towards a Basic Income Guarantee that will provide economic security and resilience. We would also introduce a nutritious school lunch program for the public school system to ensure our children are given all of the tools they need to succeed. Our plan also provides solutions that will create better connections between farmers and consumers and build a stronger, healthier regional food system. As it's increasingly expensive for Ontarians to put food on the table, access to affordable local food is key. The Ontario Greens would provide start-up funding and land for community-owned healthy food markets, community gardens, and rooftop growing spaces, particularly in urban food deserts and treat surplus food as a valuable resource. First, use it to feed people, then animals, and never send it to landfill.

Yes



### Paul Taylor, None of the Above Direct Democracy

Food insecurity was again created by Big business lobbying government to cut such important programs. This was so we would all be reliant on Big business like Loblaws, Sobeys, and Metro. How many high school students know how to plant a garden? Even grow their own weed. Not many. We need to have programs that teach students and those on low income how to grow their own food. Moreover, we need to start a program of public gardens like they have in Britain and other places so those who do not have land can grow their own food. While some food needs to be imported, we need to monitor more closely what we do import. Is it safe for the environment, is it safe for us?

Yes



### Raechelle Devereaux, Ontario Liberal Party

As costs rise across the board, an Ontario Liberal government will take action to put more money back in peoples' pockets. We commit to raising the minimum wage to \$16/hour, followed by the implementation of a regionally set living wage across the province. In Guelph, the last calculated living wage is \$18.10/hour. As the CEO of the Guelph CHC, I made a commitment that we would be a living wage employer --- this is important to me personally and professionally. An Ontario Liberal government will raise ODSP and OW rates, and double the Old Age Security top-up from the province. We will also provide portable drug, dental, vision and mental health benefits for all workers

Yes





## QUESTION 5:

What action will you and your party take to ensure all workers in Ontario have decent work that offers fair wages and working conditions, including paid sick days?



### James Parr, Ontario New Democratic Party

The NDP firmly supports a \$20 min wage and 10 paid sick days for all workers. Further the Green New Democratic Deal will create over 1 million jobs in the new green economy so all workers will have access to decent jobs, fair wages and good working conditions. The NDP will also invest in post-secondary education and workforce development to prepare Ontarians for the in-demand jobs of the innovation economy.



### Juanita Burnett, Communist Party of Ontario

Bill 124 must be repealed. We would ban temporary employment agencies and extend all employment standards to 'gig' workers, enact plant closure legislation, anti-scab laws, bankruptcy protection, and card check union certification for all workers. Our policy is for two weeks employer paid sick days for all workers.



### Mike Schreiner, Green Party of Ontario

The pandemic has reminded us who keeps our cities running during dark times. We can't afford to wait to treat workers with the respect they deserve. Ontario Greens commit to: - increasing the floor of the minimum wage each year by \$1, starting at \$16 in 2022, with a top-up in cities where the cost of living is higher; - 10 paid sick days; - banning routine sick notes; - repealing Bill 124; - ending the practice of deeming by WSIB; - providing all workers with full and equal access to employment rights and benefits programs like EI, CPP, and WSIB, as well as equal pay for equal work, regardless of whether the employee is permanent, part-time, temporary, or casual. - implementing a Gig Workers Bill of Rights that would, among other things, protect gig workers, end the misclassification of employees and provide real wages are not reduced below the minimum wage.



### Paul Taylor, None of the Above Direct Democracy

We should never bother with a \$20 min wage. Instead workers should have a right to a living wage, with indexing! Also workers must have a right to sick pay when they are sick and for as long as they need. Workers and people have rights Big Business do not! Small business must be given government help for this to work.



### Raechelle Devereaux, Ontario Liberal Party

As costs rise across the board, an Ontario Liberal government will take action to put more money back in peoples' pockets. We commit to raising the minimum wage to \$16/hour, followed by the implementation of a regionally set living wage across the province. In Guelph, the last calculated living wage is \$18.10/hour. As the CEO of the Guelph CHC, I made a commitment that we would be a living wage employer --- this is important to me personally and professionally. An Ontario Liberal government will raise ODSP and OW rates, and double the Old Age Security top-up from the province. We will also provide portable drug, dental, vision and mental health benefits for all workers





## QUESTION 6:

Nobody should be forced to choose between paying for groceries and paying for the medication they need. How will your party ensure that everyone has access to prescription drug coverage, regardless of their income, age, or where they work or live?



### James Parr, Ontario New Democratic Party

I am pleased to stand behind the NDP's platform of including universal pharma care for all Ontarians to complement the existing public drug programs. We will also be making available some drugs including take home cancer frugs, PEP and PrEP, right away at no cost.



### Juanita Burnett, Communist Party of Ontario

Part of our program includes expanded universal public services, which means full, free, and universal dental, vision, pharma-, mental health, and long-term care, and the development of a generic pharmaceutical industry. Public ownership of pharmaceuticals takes the profit motive out of the equation, allowing for better access to medications people need.



### Mike Schreiner, Green Party of Ontario

We must address the inequity experienced by people trying to access Ontario's healthcare system. Because in the Ontario we want, no one is unable to access health care. Ontario Greens commit to an equitable and publicly funded, publicly delivered healthcare system and oppose further privatisation of care. Ontario Greens would partner with the federal government to implement a universal pharmacare program. As an interim measure, we would publicly fund takehome cancer and rare disease medications. We would also improve diagnosis and OHIP-covered care for rare diseases like lyme disease, long-COVID, and chronic pain disorders. We would also expand OHIP to include regulated mental health care providers who are presently out of reach for so many Ontarians. And Ontario Greens would go further by increasing upstream investments in the social determinants of health, such as social isolation, housing insecurity, and poverty to prevent substantial, long-term healthcare costs and severe disease.



### Paul Taylor, None of the Above Direct Democracy

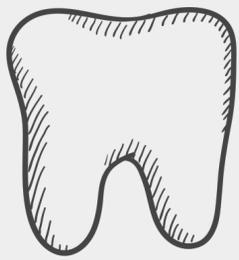
Healthcare is all inclusive and as such MUST include everything. Therefore OHIP should be forced to include all drugs and dental.



### Raechelle Devereaux, Ontario Liberal Party

An Ontario Liberal government will ensure all Ontarians have access to prescription drug coverage and private benefit plans cover all the drugs in Ontario's public formulary.





## QUESTION 7:

An estimated 3 million people in Ontario cannot afford dental care. What steps will your party take to fill the gap in access to dental care?



### James Parr, Ontario New Democratic Party

The NDP firmly believes that dental care is health care and that no one should have to make a decision between fixing their teeth or paying a grocery bill. The NDP will work with the federal government to strengthen and expand dental care for all Ontarians.



### Juanita Burnett, Communist Party of Ontario

Full, free and universal dental care. Unaddressed dental issues affect general health, job prospects, and basic enjoyment of life.



### Mike Schreiner, Green Party of Ontario

I heard from many constituents, in particular seniors, who had limited access to dental care. I advocated to the government to fix their broken program, but they failed to do it. Ontario Greens commit to partnering with the federal government to implement a universal dental care program.



### Paul Taylor, None of the Above Direct Democracy

Dental is part of healthcare. Ask any dentist the dangers of not having proper dental care. As such it must be fully cover by OHIP.



### Raechelle Devereaux, Ontario Liberal Party

We will cover the cost of dental care through our portable benefits package which will be accessible to all workers who do not have access to workplace benefits, this includes self-employed, contract, part-time and gig workers. Those who will not be eligible for portable benefits such as seniors will be covered by expanded dental care subsidy program.



## QUESTION 8:

Years of chronic underfunding of the community mental health and addictions system have led to longer wait times and fewer services for Ontarians. Will your party commit to significant investments in the community mental health and addiction system?



### James Parr, Ontario New Democratic Party

I firmly believe that everyone deserves timely access to mental health or addictions services. The NDP's plan for Universal, Publicly Funded Mental Health Care will offer no-cost counselling and therapy for all Ontarians. The NDP is committed to reducing the waitlists for child and youth mental health services for a maximum of 30 days. We will implement the Make Kids Count Action Plan as laid out by the Children's Health Coalition, an investment of \$130 million over the next three years to build intensive treatment and specialized consultation services, increase access to psychotherapy & counselling, family therapy and supports and to scale 24/7 crisis support services. We are also committed to addressing the social determinants of health, such as poverty and lack of affordable housing.



### Juanita Burnett, Communist Party of Ontario

Definitely - investments, and policies to end the opioid crisis such as decriminalizing drug use, expanding safe consumption and supply programs, and humane treatment, rehabilitation and public education programs. We would increase health and hospital funding to above the national average. Expanded public health services to provide full, free, and universal dental, vision, pharma-, mental health, and long-term care. Public ownership of long term care facilities that ensure funding for adequate and well-paid staff as well as sufficient personal protective equipment (PPE). We would also bring Big Pharma under public ownership, and develop a generic pharmaceutical industry.



### Mike Schreiner, Green Party of Ontario

Our vision for Ontario is one that clearly states that mental health is health. Ontario Greens would work with the Federal Government to decriminalize drug use to improve lives, lower costs and treat mental health as a public health issue. Ontario Greens would bring mental health services under OHIP by offering services provided by psychotherapists, psychologists, social workers, and other regulated professionals so that people can afford and can access the care they need. Municipalities and community organizations are also increasingly on the frontlines of the mental health crisis. Ontario Greens commit to providing an immediate base budget increase of 8% to the community mental health sector to increase access to publicly funded care. We also recognize that youth mental health challenges are at an all time high. Ontario Greens commit to reducing wait times to 30 days or less for children and youth by investing in frontline mental health care workers.



### Paul Taylor, None of the Above Direct Democracy

Mental health MUST also be covered by OHIP this means including full coverage for psychologists.



### Raechelle Devereaux, Ontario Liberal Party

Ontario Liberals will transform mental health services through a \$3 billion increase in funding for mental health and addictions services, helping clear a dangerous backlog for support. This investment will help train more than 3,000 new mental health and addictions workers, 1,000 of which will be dedicated to working with at-risk youth.



## QUESTION 9:

**Asked in partnership with the Wellington Guelph Drug Strategy:**  
What action will your party take to address and end the drug poisoning crisis?



### **James Parr, Ontario New Democratic Party**

First off, we will declare the opioid crisis a public health emergency and invest in harm reduction strategies immediately. We will remove the cap that was implemented on supervised consumption sites by Doug Ford and work to ensure safer alternatives to the current toxic and deadly supply of drugs available on the streets. We will also work with the federal government to reduce the stigma of drug addiction and decriminalize personal drug use.



### **Juanita Burnett, Communist Party of Ontario**

As stated above: decriminalization of drug use, expanded safe consumption and supply programs, and humane treatment, rehabilitation, and public education programs. I believe that a generic pharmaceutical industry would take the profit motive out which would allow more focus on drugs that are aimed at improving health of people (and hopefully less addictive medical choices for injuries etc.)



### **Mike Schreiner, Green Party of Ontario**

First and foremost, Ontario Greens would decriminalize drug possession and shift funding from the justice system to the healthcare system. In March 2022, I filed a motion asking the Government to treat the drug poisoning crisis as a health issue, one that requires a comprehensive public health response, and not a criminal one. Declaring the opioid crisis a public health emergency would free up funds and provide focused, coordinated government leadership to combat the crisis. We would also reboot the Ontario Emergency Opioid Task Force to address the urgency and complexity of the drug poisoning crisis. Ontario Greens would create health-focused crisis response teams to respond to drug poisonings, and increase investments in flexible treatment options, consumption and treatment sites and harm reduction programs, including safe supply. And by taking a Housing First approach, the Ontario Greens commit to building 60,000 permanent supportive housing spaces with wrap-around services for those with complex care needs.



### **Paul Taylor, None of the Above Direct Democracy**

Drug and alcohol addiction is often the result of a person attempting to numb the pain, whether physical or mental pain. Therefore we need real programs to not blame people on drugs, and treat them like criminals, but to instead help them deal with their pain and get back on their feet. A program that takes them in and walks them through a full recovery process. Drug addiction, like any problem is easily solvable so long as government wants to! It maybe expensive, but each person saved becomes a taxpayer.



### **Raechelle Devereaux, Ontario Liberal Party**

I am proud to have launched Ontario's 3rd overdose prevention site, and the first in our region. I also lead overdose response during the pandemic, and initiated our safer supply program. An Ontario Liberal government will prevent, intervene and treat opioid addiction and overdose with a \$300 million investment. Ontario Liberals will also lift the arbitrary cap on new Consumption and Treatment Services sites, which offer life-saving services like safe injection programs. We'll also support the 24/7 operation of these sites in key locations and provide ample support for the safe handling and disposal of needle debris. Ontario Liberals will target organized crime groups and deceptive opioid manufacturers, and make life-saving harm reduction supplies and sites more available. I was particularly pleased to see that the Ontario Liberal platform contains plans for 15 additional Community Health Centres (CHCs) that can offer much-needed wraparound care services.



## QUESTION 10:

**Asked in partnership with the Community Resilience Coalition of Guelph & Wellington:**

Adverse Childhood Experiences and other forms of adversity can increase the risk of negative outcomes across the lifespan. Resilience is our ability to successfully adapt to adversity and maintain wellbeing; it relies on our interactions with the people, resources and environments around us. What steps will you and your party take to prevent and reduce adversity and promote resilience among children and their families?



### James Parr, Ontario New Democratic Party

I recently attended webinar hosted by the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Coalition of Guelph & Wellington and had the opportunity to learn from lived experiences and experts. I am committed to reducing adversity amongst children and making it easier for them to access integrated mental health support in schools. The NDP also will hire more teachers and reduce class sizes so children can get the attention they need from their educators. We will also increase special education funding for students who need a bit of extra help.



### Juanita Burnett, Communist Party of Ontario

The Communist Party of Canada (Ontario) believes that we are here for more than just to increase profits for corporations and the wealthy. Our program offers a healthier way to live: work for pay 32 hours a week (with no loss in pay), ensure that our needs are met - enough money, truly affordable housing, full/free/universal health care and child care, needs-based funding for schools (and lower class sizes!), improved public transportation and public auto insurance, and so on. We would sharply reduce police funding, and demilitarize the police. If we invest in meeting the needs of the people - for food, shelter, health, education etc.; if we allow people the opportunity to work when/if they can AND to enjoy the other aspects of their lives - families, friends, hobbies - the world would be a much better place.



### Mike Schreiner, Green Party of Ontario

Through conversations with constituents, and my consultations with experts as I helped the Ontario Greens draft the first stand-alone mental health strategy put forward by any political party, I learned of the great impact Adverse Childhood Experiences can have on the development of a child and their resiliency as an adult. We need to meet kids where they are at and provide them with the tools they need to succeed. Ontario Greens are committed to ensuring that mental health, wellness and resiliency training is included across the entire education system. We would implement a comprehensive curriculum that covers issues such as mental wellness, coping skills, and stress management. We would also replicate models that exist in Guelph like the Grove Youth Wellness Hubs and the Guelph and Wellington County ACEs Coalition, province-wide to increase programming available to prevent the effects of adverse childhood experiences.



### Paul Taylor, None of the Above Direct Democracy

We need to look at schools and provide them with all the support they need. Children are our future. Sadly, when a family experiences hard times so does the child. This is why families should be provided all the supports they need to get back on their feet. I am a firm believer in nature over nature. I believe if we can help and support children today, including preventing bullying, we can actually prevent the majority of violent crime tomorrow.



### Raechelle Devereaux, Ontario Liberal Party

As a health care leader in Guelph, I have put particular focus on the importance of the prevention of adverse childhood experiences (trauma), as well as poverty elimination. There are currently 500,000 children living in poverty in our province. A child who is hungry or worried cannot learn appropriately. I intend to continue the actions I have already helped to found and lead in Guelph focused on these areas, including the partnership between Food for Kids and Guelph CHC's The SEED, as well as building early community and school based trauma-prevention and resilience enablers, and strengthening community-based resilience. I am a founding member of the Guelph Wellington Community Resilience Coalition, formerly the ACEs Coalition of Guelph Wellington, and have a long history of working with schools and community groups to lead transformative change ideas in this critical area of science-based interventions right here in Guelph.