

Question	Kimberly Calderbank	Michael Jones	Lisa Kearns	Gerard Shkuda	Roland Tanner	Walter Wiebe
<b>Why are you running for Council?</b>	Burlington has always been home, and I'm passionate about our Community. I'm running to build on the work I've already done for our City: championing local businesses, working to improve our hospital, coordinating events that have contributed the vibrancy and economic success of Ward 2, collaborating to make our neighbourhoods safer. I'm the only Ward 2 candidate who has the business skills, the relevant experience, the trust of local businesses, and the initiative to be the most effective, collaborative voice for you at City Hall.	I am at a point in my life where I believe my experience and core values will be an asset to the City. I had successful position as a Business Development Manager in downtown Burlington and furthered my experience with Masters in Business and Environment at a large office supply company. I have enjoyed volunteering for an advisory committee at City Hall for a previous Councillor. In the community, I have been a Board of Director for Burlington Green and part of the Save our //	It is the right thing to do. Our community has called me to serve. Ward 2 deserves strong leadership and deep business experience. I will work harder than anyone to ensure our community remains the best place to live. I have the academic background and professional experience to serve you with excellence through an unmatched passion for engaging residents and businesses.	No response received	I'm running for Council because I see the challenges facing our city and have the skills and experience to address them. My experience in running a business, and my role in promoting civic engagement have prepared me well for the job of Councillor. I want to help reinvent the way City Hall conducts itself, respects and hears citizens and works in partnership with organizations and businesses to ensure Burlington continues to attract jobs and investment and offer an excellent quality of life to all.	Burlington is fast approaching an apex in its growth. Responsible infrastructure calls for accountable, candid and transparent behaviour from council. My 2 decades of international business will only benefit our city in ensuring we meet the needs of not just the a chosen few but all citizens. My residential real estate development background provides me insight that will bring long-term success to Burlington.
<b>What is the most important issue that you will deal with in the next four years and how will you deal with it?</b>	The most important issue is Burlington's growth—how we'll manage it and how we'll grow in a way that benefits residents and businesses.  My experience working with the BDBA and as downtown business owner will allow me to apply a pragmatic approach to the growth challenges we are currently facing.  I have the negotiation, communication, and business skills, as well as the experience working with various departments at City Hall to help manage projects during all stages to help mitigate inconvenience to residents and businesses.	I believe that is what this current Council has forgotten is that we need to solve the issues that all people are concerned with. Every issue before council is important to that person who is delegating. Respect needs to be brought back and it will take 4 years to get that trust back. As a Ward 2 candidate there is a common issue - over intensification. As someone who has delegated for 10 years against this very issue. I want to work to slow down //	Overwhelmingly, residents know we need to grow but agree that the adopted Official Plan is just too much, too high, and risks our quality of life. We are a mid-size city. My track record and community engagement proves that delivering on scaled back development permissions is the most important issue this term. I will continue to respect residents as an equal voice in how we grow, how we respect our established character, and how we live within what our infrastructure can support.	No response received	In Ward 2 and across the city, how we handle intensification and development as the population grows is the overwhelming concern for residents. We must 1) Acknowledge resident interests are paramount and their concerns are legitimate. 2) Revisit the planning objectives for downtown with an emphasis on protecting and improving its special character 3) Restructure the development approval process with innovative measures to include resident input from the earliest stages as respected partners. 4) Make development a collaboration between partners, not a battle between adversaries.	Responsible growth requires responsible negotiation. We clearly have been out maneuvered by big business. Why? Because we don't have the right skill-set at City Hall to deal with the demands from the developers. I have been involved in international business for over 20 years. I know intimately how it works and know how to make a win-win for all.
<b>The Places to Grow document has put pressures on municipalities to grow and intensify causing a decrease in affordability. What measures would you introduce to address this problem?</b>	Intensification does not necessarily decrease affordability, and can often have the opposite effect. Places to Grow promotes residential growth, complete communities and complete streets which provides better options for people to walk, cycle and take transit. These changes will mean more customers within walking distance of local businesses and more neighbourhood vibrancy. I'll help ensure the alignment of land use planning and development regulations to grow strategically so businesses will benefit, more housing can be created, and we can increase our supply of commercial/office space.	Affordability in Burlington is somewhat of an oxymoron and has been for many years. Personally living in an undersized home I am now in a position that I would not be able to move within my own neighbourhood. I am far more fortunate than many though. Within Burlington we are starting to see an increased number of people on the streets and frequenting foodbanks. I understand HATCH has a extended waiting list for our area for those who want to stay and those who want //	I have called for community benefits based on inclusionary zoning standards that support housing affordability when height and density permissions are exceeded. I will continue to advocate for this with our development community to promote socio-economically diverse neighbourhoods. I will proactively use partnerships and the tools set out in the Comprehensive Housing Strategy 2014-2024 to deliver housing affordability.	No response received	We need to implement measures to insist on a minimum affordable unit percentage in every major development, with criteria that ensure the units remain affordable long term and ideally in perpetuity. As a Regional councillor, I would also advocate for additional investment in Halton Region's social housing supply, and explore the possibility of bringing forward new cooperative housing projects. Working in partnership with the private sector, organizations like Habitat for Humanity, and federal and provincial governments we can develop solutions that transform affordable housing.	Once again, this question falls to the core of the problem which is poor negotiation skills on part of council. If we allow developers to build a 26-storey building instead of the mandated 15 storey, what percentage of the total will they make affordable? Enact policy that states a defined percentage must be affordable or developers don't get their permit to build.
<b>If elected, what measures would you propose or support to improve the operations of Burlington Transit?</b>	My focus will be an increase in ridership and a decrease in traffic congestion. We'll need a smart plan and investment so BT can provide more frequent routes that get people where they need to go—work, school, GO Stations, shopping. Using transit needs to be easy, and it needs to be faster. Provincially mandated growth and intensification means that transit is now a necessity, no longer a nice-to-have.  I'd also like to use my marketing expertise to help develop a results-oriented BT marketing plan.	Burlington Transit has always had a misperception of empty buses circling the city. The people who require the transit rely on it. I know there is a new transit plan created for 2018. It would be a disservice to those who created it to immediately make changes. A greater push for rider feedback must be done to make sure the changes have improved the daily issues of speed, connectivity and connecting with GO schedule. In my experience transfers were not as quick as anticipated. I am //	We need a system that works for us and I promise that my expertise and engagement will deliver on the many proven benefits of transit investment. The priority now is route optimization, secured long-term funding, and resourcing to meet service standards. An investment increase of 5% to the operational budget and user engagement is the first step to get us there.	No response received	No candidate is a stronger advocate for placing transit at the centre of Burlington's future plans. Decades of underinvestment have delivered one of the poorest transit services in Ontario, with falling ridership levels, and a concurrent impact on worsening traffic. The city cannot continue to prosper without viable transport alternatives. We need to combine innovation and investment to transform BT, as has happened in Kingston and Brampton, with ambitious targets of doubling ridership within 8 years. Other cities have done it, and so can we.	Free Transit for Seniors Pilot Projects for residents who live in the core to sample transit for free with a pre-paid pass. Transportation study - what do the experts have to say Resident feedback- what do they have to say
<b>In the previous two years, tax increases averaged 3-4%, much higher than the rate of inflation. What would you do to control the municipal budget?</b>	Burlington's increases were partly attributable to budgetary challenges: minimum wage increase, transit investments.  I'll focus on priorities to ensure residents are getting value for their dollars. I do support a significant investment in transit that will yield returns like safer streets, congestion reduction, healthier communities, and job attraction.  I'll help ensure growth is more than paying for itself. When new developments maximize existing infrastructure, the increased tax revenue from new residents can be directed to other priorities helping to keep taxes low for all residents.	I have worked for a small company in downtown Burlington and a large Corporation in Mississauga. The theme is the same keep expenses low and look for opportunities to spend less. Instead of making sweeping cuts to specific area. We need to do more with less within the City of Burlington. We all work within the budget we have, this needs to be applied at City Hall. We have created some great and controversial assets to the City such as pier and BPAC. It is //	I am committed to delivering the best value for every tax dollar. I will challenge unnecessary spending and leverage my strategic procurement expertise to control costs and spend wisely. I will support new revenue opportunities and work with all levels of government to offset the rising cost of city management.	No response received	The city has historically kept taxes low by using fees and taxes raised from new suburban developments. Now we are built out, council's enthusiasm for high-rise development is partly based on their wish to keep tax increases reasonable. It would be easy for me to promise to keep tax increases below inflation, with no means of delivering, but real leadership means facing our financial challenges. We must combine spending efficiencies with adopting a citizen advisory budget process to ensure every dollar spent reflects residents' priorities.	We must do a deep dive into budget and peel back all the layers of duplication. This is a standard business practice. Make the developers pay into a parking dedication fee to the city to help in alleviating the parking chaos and at the same time reducing our overall residential tax burden.
<b>If elected, what measures would you propose or support to improve the supply of Burlington's skilled workforce?</b>	Burlington already has a well-educated workforce but I will work to actively increase the supply of skilled workers as Burlington grows.  Younger, educated residents are taking their skills and moving to cities like Hamilton which offer affordable housing, good transit, walkable/cycling-friendly streets, and a vibrant arts scene. These are all reasons I support responsible, sustainable growth.  Hamilton expects to add 4,000 more jobs next year, mostly in the tech, health and education sectors. I'll actively support efforts to grow and recruit jobs in these sectors.	I can personally speak on the shift in Burlington's economy as my first "job" was assisting on Alton Farms to my previous position as part of a technology company creating the latest in water quality instrumentation. Burlington land is in short demand so we need to continue to encourage the companies that are currently here to continue. My former company had to leave Burlington to expand as land was lower cost in a neighbouring community. We need to continue the Burlington Economic Development Corporation to //	A skilled workforce is critical to our City's success. Development and competitiveness of our Regional Employment Strategy puts land use at the cornerstone of business and employment growth. I support the complete communities that will deliver on the OP Employment Activity Policies but challenge that we have closed the door to some opportunities that host a skilled workforce supported by strategic partnerships and economic growth opportunities.	No response received	A skilled workforce depends on a city that is accessible to all ages and income groups. Currently, skilled workers are being driven out of Burlington by high property prices. The city can ensure a strong local supply of skilled workers by prioritizing affordable housing supply, multi-modal transportation infrastructure and vibrant, walkable communities and neighbourhoods which will enable highly skilled working-age residents to stay here and move here. Finally, we need to do more to provide incentives to prospective employers to locate in Burlington, especially downtown.	Grants and Co-op funding directed from the province directly to the small and medium sized businesses within Burlington. Free schooling and paid on the job training for those looking to get into areas where there is high demand yet no little or no supply

// indicates 85 words. Candidates were given an 85 word maximum per question.