

| Question | Wendy Moraghan | Daniel Roukema | Paul Sharman | Mary Alice St. James | Xin Yi Zhang |
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| Why are you running for Council? | After serving my community for more than 30 years as a Halton Regional Police Officer, I would be honoured to continue my community service. I am a lifelong Burlington resident, having lived in Ward 5 for 31 years, I care about our community. I'm running for council because I want to help ensure respectful growth, support seniors living in our community, promote transportation that makes sense, and maintain safe neighbourhoods. I will be YOUR full time Ward 5 Councillor. | Burlington is facing extraordinary challenges, and residents feel that it's time for new and better leadership to manage issues, engage them, and make informed decisions to effectively represent their voices in Council. It's time for leadership that focuses on people, which includes engaging, listening, and sharing and championing best practice solutions. I am a community economic development, government relations, and public affairs professional with 25 years of experience representing the public interest and voices of communities. I'm here to unconditionally represent everyone. | I am running to contribute my business experience to the long-term success of Burlington. In my third term on Council I will continue to work towards achieving long term quality of life for all Burlington citizens and control property taxes prudently. I am committed to find the way to provide not-for-profit housing and integrated wellness programs for 1000's of older adults who cannot afford even the minimum for-profit seniors housing. We must eliminate cut-off traffic congestion resulting from highway bottlenecks. | Ward 5 is the forgotten Ward and the gateway to and from Burlington. I was asked to run by citizens in the Orchard, Mid-town, Sheldon Park, Pinedale, Ascension/Frontenac/Bateman, Elizabeth Gardens, St. Patricks/Mohawk Gardens and Pineland due to my 25 years of experiences as a local school principal and due to my extensive work with advocating for citizens needs. | No response received |
| What is the most important issue that you will deal with in the next four years and how will you deal with it? | When speaking with citizens in Ward 5, I consistently hear that they are extremely concerned at the rapid pace the city is growing. Most realize that it is inevitable that the city will grow, however they do not feel that their voices are being heard with respect to height of buildings and traffic congestion. I will be that strong voice. I will work to collaborate with developers and the City Planning Department to ensure that our existing communities are respected. They were here first! | Residents have been clear that trust needs to be restored. Many are frustrated about being left out of decision-making processes on important issues affecting their community. Whether development, transit, or traffic-related matters including parking; I am committed to tackling the challenges of restoring public confidence. In my Policy Statement on Transparency, Accountability, and Openness, (www.roukema.ca) I announced that if elected, I would establish advisory groups and neighbourhood/community associations to give the community more input and a stronger voice to be an accessible representative of all. | Burlington has two burning platform issues for which groundwork must be completed in the next term of council: 1) serve the needs of seniors as their population increases from 20% to 40% in the next 20 years; 2) because the City is built out, make sure housing is available to all income levels for our children, grandchildren and seniors who will otherwise not be able afford to live here. We will help set-up not-for-profit organizations to do this in conjunction with businesses and government. | Ward 5 is the forgotten Ward and the gateway to and from Burlington. The most important issue is ensuring responsible, sustainable development based on Burlington's infrastructure and service limitations (streets width, length, traffic flow, local schools, places of worship, police, fire department, and ambulance, pedestrian safety and usage, lengths of builds, storm sewers, sanitation and supply water). | No response received |
| 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? | In Burlington 13,000 residents live in poverty, representing 7.3% of the City's population, this number includes 3,400 children. 1 in 8 Halton seniors live in poverty. I will work collaboratively with the Halton Poverty Roundtable and Habitat for Humanity to bring awareness to the community about these issues and try and develop solutions. I will work with the developers to provide more affordable units. Unaffordable high-rises are not the solution, community engagement and collaboration is. | Decreasing affordability is of great concern to me. As discussed in my Policy Statement on Smart Development, affordability can be controlled through more stringent policies on affordable housing, especially mixed-housing. As Councillor, I will only support high-rise development that includes living opportunities for people of varying diverse economic backgrounds. | In the last term of Council, the Burlington Economic Development Corporation created an economic vision which became the basis of the City's 2015 Strategic Plan. Council approved the strategic plan unanimously. It addressed long term needs of the community including provincial growth targets. In April 2018, based on the strategic plan, Council approved the New Official Plan which specifically satisfies provincial targets. With a legally defensible Official Plan, my goal is to implement these plans while being sensitive to the concerns of community members. | The Province required the City of Burlington to identify 2 Intensification Hubs. Instead, though a vote from 7, the majority ruled and is seeking 4 Intensification Hubs in The Places to Grow Document. As Ward 5 Councillor I would follow policies, procedures and protocols to seek restraints and potential methods to bring this back to respectful, sustainable development that has citizens voices heard and promotes working, living and playing in Burlington. Affordable housing no longer exists within Burlington and is likely a key component highlighting why // | No response received |
| If elected, what measures would you propose or support to improve the operations of Burlington Transit? | I would advocate for a "Seniors Ride Free Day" (once a week). This was successful in Oakville and increased ridership. Our transit system is under-utilized and we need to promote ridership. Burlington Transit needs smaller buses on the less travelled routes and the City should look at replacing aging buses with newer electric, emissions free buses. | Burlington's transit system needs considerable attention. As Councillor, I would: - Push for the restoration of transit's share of the federal gas tax to 30%; - Strongly advocate to build the transit system whose growth will be in sync with the plans for the city's growth; - Increase service from neighbourhoods to and from the GO stations, with specific north/south and south/north rush hour routes; - Advocate for free off-peak rides for our seniors; - Seek further input on transit from the Advisory Committees and // | We need a transit system that serves the needs of community members in a general sense. What we have does not do that and has not done so for decades. In the last two years, staff have received advice from competent leading transportation experts and we await the release of their conclusions in the form of staff recommendations. If they make sense, I will support them, if not we will keep working at it. | The current City Council has diverted allotted monies away from the Burlington Transit Staff thereby limiting their skilled work to make positive changes to a failing Transit System. We have one of Canada's best Directors of Transit who has been with us for one year of disturbing lack of support by the majority counts votes of Councillors. As Ward 5 Councillor I would ensure that monies coming from the Province of Ontario would be put towards letting our Transit Staff who as their highly skilled // | No response received |
| 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? | I would work collaboratively with the new council to prioritize where the tax dollars are being spent. Our citizens want improved snow removal, road and sidewalk repair, bylaw enforcement, improved services for seniors, and more police officers to keep our communities safe. They don't want glossy promotional material, high priced consultants and ineffective traffic studies. We need to utilize their tax dollars more efficiently and effectively. | We need to recognize that the tax burden on residents is real. With cost of living increasing, I will only support budgets that are in line with the current rate of inflation. I will also seek to continue attracting additional opportunities to attract businesses to Burlington. | Burlington home owners tax bills have actually increased 2-2.5% , roughly equal to inflation, over the last 4 years. City budget increases of 3-4% have been diluted when blended with lower Region and education budget increases. Region and education budget increases have been subsidized by growing population in Milton etc. Burlington has very little tax/population growth but has used Region dilution to fund infrastructure reserves and transit shortfalls. I believe it is prudent to take advantage of Region assessment growth to build reserves. | Neighbouring cities of Oakville, Milton and Hamilton have not had this high rate of inflation because they are doing a far superior job of marketing their cities for businesses. We need to attract and retain new businesses whose employees want to arrive in Burlington. It is how my family arrived here and 1979 and why my husband (local 1 man business) and I chose to live here and remain here to raise our children. We need to be competitive in getting new residents and retaining // | No response received |
| If elected, what measures would you propose or support to improve the supply of Burlington's skilled workforce? | As Burlington grows we can actively increase the supply of skilled workers by promoting the institution of a living wage. Calling on businesses to invest more in their employees, paying them an amount enabling them to fully participate in their communities. Living wage in Burlington is \$17.95, calculated on the real cost of living in the community. Studies show that paying a living wage leads to increased productivity and less employee turnover. Paying a living wage will increase the supply and quality of our skilled // | I would support attracting more businesses to Burlington that will hire skilled professionals. - With stakeholders such as the Chamber of Commerce and the Burlington Economic Development Corporation, I would promote this city as a great place to do business and provide incentives to businesses to relocate. - I would also work with settlement organizations such as the Halton Multicultural Council to truly determine the city and region's supply of skilled professionals, to assist in recognizing newcomers' foreign credentials to integrate them into // | I will continue to support the extremely successful and thoroughly thought out, professional work of the Burlington Economic Development Corporation (BEDC). The plan is to attract new and retain existing corporations and jobs. See the BEDC strategic plan here http://bedc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/BEDC-Strategic-Plan-2018-2022.pdf and 2017 results here http://bedc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/BEDC-2017-Annual-Report.pdf | When in my role as a local principal for 25 years, I encouraged students and their families and staffs to think outside the traditional box in terms of best routes for gainful employment and lifetime contributions and fulfillment. It is not necessarily about College or University for some. In my role as Councillor for Ward 5 I would host local work fairs for adolescents and their families. I would ensure that they occur at strategic times when adolescents and young adults could attend. I would // | No response received |

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