

Question	Angelo Bentivegna	Blair Lancaster	Kinsey Schurm	Ken White
Why are you running for Council?	Known as Ward 6 Councillor without Portfolio, I am an active source and contributor to residents in Ward 6! I have complete understanding of the issues surrounding our city from Traffic to the adopted Official Plan & completely comfortable with the navigation around City Hall! -Appointed to Committee of Adjustments -Attend over 70% of Committee & Council meetings. -I will hit the road running! I have successfully helped or consulted with residents in Ward 6 on many issues over the years. -Successfully lobbied at //	I have been the Councillor for Ward Six for the past eight years and I believe we have begun one of the most important stages of our Cities history. I would like to continue the work we have started to ensure it is successfully completed.	I am running for council because I'm tired of feeling like I and my neighbours have no voice. Whether it be the condo developments going downtown or the lack of infrastructure investments, our current representation has done nothing to address any of our concerns. Given my ten years of political experiences coupled with a fresh youthful take on our city's problems, I think I'm the best candidate for the job of Ward 6 councillor.	I'm alarmed by the magnitude of change that the City is experiencing due to over intensification and all of its negative impacts.
What is the most important issue that you will deal with in the next four years and how will you deal with it?	The adopted Official Plan is our City's road map. This next Council will need to tackle some of the language in this document & work with the Region to re-examine and accomplish a vision that most Burlingtonians expect. As your Regional Council member, I will work with my colleagues to help us make the changes needed. This official plan as it is,will effectively add to traffic congestion and more gridlock.	We must respond to the growth that has been mandated by the Province by developing plans that will successfully support this growth. Transportation master plan, Affordable Housing Policy, Mid rise guidelines, Transit Initiatives including Regional Transit, Employment strategies, Recreation and liveable community strategies	The most important issue that I will deal with is our infrastructure. We need to invest more in our roads and our transit to keep Burlingtonians moving. Currently, council seems more focused on continued development instead of focusing on the people who live here now who are stuck in traffic trying to get to and from work. Its about time we changed that attitude around.	Development in the City has taken on a dangerous level. If the "New" Council elected in October has the fortitude to do so developers must be dragged back to the table to negotiate some of these egregious proposals.
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?	Affordability is one of the most difficult issue facing our city, the province, and our Country. The economic factors put incredible pressure on this subject. Rising housing values, costs of food, gas, utilities, all play into the category of affordability. My solution is to champion a group of stakeholders to include agencies, (foodbank, habitat, salvation army, schools, different levels of gov't) to discuss & look for ways to ease the pressures of affordability.	Intensification will help to create affordable units. We will also continue to work with partners like Habitat for Humanity to ensure units stay affordable in the future.	I would ensure that any developments or intensification projects both make sense for the local infrastructure that these future residents would be using as well as fit the look and feel of the city. The fact is that building condos is not necessarily a bad thing, but we need to make sure that the concerns of Burlingtonians that live here now are heard.	ntensification has been supported by "Charlatan's" promoting more affordable housing. Any governments attempts to distort the market are usually met with unintended consequences. Thus market forces must be left to correct prices in a natural manner.
If elected, what measures would you propose or support to improve the operations of Burlington Transit?	We need to put buses where the cars are. -Stop buying large buses -Frequent & dependable rush hour service on arterial roads. -Simplify routes for passengers on arterial roads. -Designated roadway access during rush hour for buses, multi passenger vehicles on arterial roads. -Neighborhood passenger pick up zones that load passengers to main bus arterial roads. -Simplify connections to employment areas in our city and throughout Halton.	In my view we need to move Transit to the Regional level. This would allow for better connectivity between the region. We also need to move to a grid system with more frequency.	In regards to Burlington Transit, I believe we need to invest in more drivers as well as buses. With faster GO transit times on the horizon, being able to take a bus to one of our three GO stations without having a long wait time would reduce the impetus to use a car.	Burlington Transit will require a comprehensive plan to meet aggressive ridership targets. This plan currently doesn't exist. To improve service and to increase operating efficiency Transit should be handled by the Region incorporating all four boroughs.
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 will vote against any budget that exceeds inflation rate. -Prioritize departmental budget needs in our City. - Department service providers asking for a budget increase will be asked how they intend to improve the service and/or quality of life for our residents. -Work with council/staff to examine ways to increase revenues, simply by doing a better job in our everyday operations. (maximizing city facility rentals, vacant rental/land tax reductions, bylaw enforcement, zoning, etc.)	The overall tax increase for the past 8 years was 1.5%. The hospital levy increase was important to our residents. We now need to focus on closing the infrastructure gap. The increased density will assist us in stabilizing our taxes for the future.	I would look at freezing any mid-level staff hires and focus on bringing on more front-line workers. The need for any mid-level management is often more of a want. Focusing on the hiring of front-line staff to serve the needs of Burlington is often a more efficient use of our tax dollars.	The City Manager should be incented with a reasonable base salary but substantial variable compensation to meet aggressive cost cutting measures.
If elected, what measures would you propose or support to improve the supply of Burlington's skilled workforce?	We need to have conversations with our existing workplace employers. It's easier to support and grow what we have rather than spending valuable resources chasing new business/conglomerates. We should be open minded and creative with the employment lands available in our city. We can create partnerships with stakeholders to display our city's commitment as a place that embraces business.	Keeping our City affordable and one of the best places to live will help us to continue to attract a skilled workforce. We currently need a supply of affordable housing units to attract young people just starting out as this would balance out our aging population.	I would look at developing areas located near our three GO stations, both for med-high residential and commercial. In order to draw in skilled tech sector employees, we need to have locations easily accessible to Toronto. I'd also look at proposing a location for a college or university campus to draw in start ups which we can then help with grants or other incentives.	Burlington has lost two of six High Schools. This has been a major lost for our community. Parents of Batemen had a comprehensive plan & industry support for a "Skills Centre of Excellence" This plus Continuing Education programs could keep these schools open and improve Burlington's work force.

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