

2018 Municipal Elections Online Special Report

Local Councillor – Ward 3



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1. What new measures would you bring forth to insure that Halton Hills is an open for business minded community?

I have been an active volunteer with the Halton Hills Chamber for over 12 years. Strengthening the Chamber is always beneficial. I will create an “open for business” statement and encourage all councilors to endorse it. Businesses considering coming to Halton Hills need to hear from Councilors as well as our Economic Development team, who are doing a great job for us. Since I have worked full time directly on behalf of the 145 Businesses within the BIA, and currently work with a manufacturing company on Armstrong Ave, I have an understanding of the challenges of entrepreneurs. I am business focused and action orientated.

2. How can we attract employers that offer full-time, non-retail jobs to our community?

I have a fairly good understanding of the business challenges in Ward 3 and with business within Halton Hills in general. However I would find it beneficial to reach out to existing business owners and find out what they feel their current struggles are. I will ask for testimonials about why they enjoy doing business here.

3. Please name the most important step the next Town Council can take to support economic growth in Halton Hills.

Control Taxes! Secondarily, market our unique lifestyle for company owners and employees

4. What would you do to control the municipal budget and if you plan any cuts where would they be?

As a Councilor Candidate, I have made myself aware of our current financial situation in Halton Hills. I do not know enough yet about where to make cuts but I do know that residents and businesses alike, want VALUE for their tax dollars. Every business owner knows that you have to carefully examine the investment for this year’s projects while, at the same time, commit resources to LONG term projects that will enable our ability to do business in the future. Spending money on long-term projects that have been thoroughly vetted is always wise .Short term projects must have a proven and immediate payoff, of course, but we should always

make decisions based on long term benefits. As Halton Hills grows (this growth is mandated by the Province of Ontario) our tax base will expand and we can do more. Bottom line: we need to balance our need to keep taxes as low as possible, while planning for the future.

5. What are your views on “Places to grow” give us your opinion on what issues good and bad may arise with this type of growth and how would you approach these issues?

Places to grow mandates we grow by 19,000 residents and provide 1,700 new jobs starting in 2021. We need to ensure that we do the best development possible and encourage high density, environmentally friendly communities. The Vision Georgetown exercise conducted by the Town was excellent, well attended and productive and should be repeated in the future.

6. Some of our members are struggling to get both entry level and skilled workers. How would you attract and retain a strong and vibrant workforce in Halton Hills?

As an HR professional for almost 20 years, I understand the challenges and benefits of recruiting quality employees, from within Halton Hills. Recently the Region hosted a job fair and I feel one that targets Acton and Georgetown would be beneficial. I am in favor of exploring a local transportation stagey between our two major centers to assist those looking for local employment. A few of my Armstrong Ave colleagues have expressed a strong interest in such a service thus allowing them to offer flexible shifts and in turn attract quality employees.
