2026 NIAGARA MUNICIPAL CANDIDATE SURVEY REPORT

Your Candidates. The Issues. Their Answers.

Mayoral and Councillor Candidate Responses

Prepared by **The Niagara Business Alliance (NBA)** | October 2026

A nonpartisan resource to help Niagara voters compare municipal candidate priorities and perspectives.

Empowering Informed Municipal Election Decisions

A nonpartisan initiative providing voters with direct access to candidate perspectives on the issues shaping Niagara's future.

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ABOUT THE SURVEY

About the 2026 Municipal Candidate Survey

The 2026 Municipal Candidate Survey was developed and administered by the Niagara Business Alliance (NBA) to provide voters, businesses, and community stakeholders with clear and comparable information regarding the priorities, perspectives, and policy positions of candidates seeking municipal office throughout Niagara Region.

Candidates were invited to share their views on issues affecting Niagara's residents, businesses and communities, including housing, economic growth, infrastructure, taxation and municipal services. Candidate responses are presented to help voters better understand the perspectives of those seeking elected office and support informed participation in the 2026 Municipal Election.

About the Niagara Business Alliance (NBA)

The Niagara Business Alliance (NBA) is a non-partisan coalition of Niagara's leading business, housing, industrial, construction and professional organizations. Collectively, its members represent thousands of businesses, employers, employees, entrepreneurs, REALTORS®, home builders, manufacturers and professionals throughout Niagara Region.

The Alliance works collaboratively to advance economic competitiveness, housing availability, investment attraction, business growth, workforce development and community prosperity.

METHODOLOGY

Survey Administration and Methodology

The 2026 Municipal Candidate Survey was administered by the Niagara Business Alliance (NBA) as a nonpartisan public information initiative.

All individuals registered as mayoral and councillor candidates within Niagara Region's twelve local municipalities were invited to participate. Candidate contact information was obtained through municipal election resources and directly from Municipal Clerks' Offices, where available.

A comprehensive candidate database was established and maintained throughout the election period. Survey invitations were distributed electronically using unique survey links assigned to individual candidates. Follow-up outreach and reminders were conducted to provide candidates with multiple opportunities to participate prior to the survey deadline.

The survey included standardized questions addressing municipal and regional issues identified by NBA member organizations, including:

- Housing affordability and supply
- Property taxes and municipal spending
- Economic development and job creation
- Infrastructure investment
- Municipal service delivery
- Regional collaboration
- Community priorities and growth management

Survey coordination and administration were supported by REALNorth Strategies in collaboration with the Niagara Association of REALTORS®, on behalf of the Niagara Business Alliance.

Survey responses were collected electronically and reviewed for completeness and administrative accuracy prior to publication. Candidate responses are generally presented as submitted, with only minor formatting and administrative adjustments made where necessary for consistency and readability.

For readability and comparison purposes, question wording may be condensed in summary tables. Condensed question labels are intended to preserve the meaning of the original questions while making candidate responses easier to compare.

The Niagara Business Alliance reserved the right to verify candidate identity and confirm the authenticity of responses prior to publication.

Technology-assisted tools, including artificial intelligence (AI), may have been used to support data organization, formatting and analysis. Candidate-submitted responses were not substantively altered by these tools. All final content was reviewed prior to publication.

Disclaimer

The Niagara Business Alliance made reasonable efforts to contact all registered mayoral and councillor candidates across Niagara Region and invite them to participate in the survey. Candidate contact information was obtained through municipal election resources and Municipal Clerks' Offices, where available. While reasonable efforts were made to ensure broad candidate outreach, the NBA cannot guarantee the completeness or accuracy of information obtained from third-party sources.

Participation in the survey was voluntary. Responses contained within this report reflect only those candidates who completed and submitted the survey within the established survey period. A candidate's non-participation or decision not to answer a particular question should not be interpreted as indicating a position on any issue.

The views expressed in candidate responses are solely those of the individual candidates and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Niagara Business Alliance or its member organizations.

The Niagara Business Alliance does not endorse any candidate, campaign, political party or political platform. This report is intended solely as an educational and informational resource to support informed voter engagement during the 2026 Municipal Election.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Niagara Business Alliance (NBA) undertook a region-wide candidate engagement initiative to provide voters with access to candidate perspectives on issues relevant to Niagara's communities and municipal decision-making over the next four years.

A total of **269 registered candidates** across Niagara Region were invited to participate in the 2026 Municipal Candidate Survey, including **46 mayoral candidates** and **223 councillor candidates**.

The survey received **171 completed responses**, representing an overall response rate of **63.6%**.

Candidate Participation Overview by Region

Position	Candidates Invited	Responses Received	Response Rate
Mayor	46	35	76.1%
Councillor	223	136	61%
Overall	**269**	**171**	**63.6%**

Survey Scope

The survey was designed to provide a region-wide view of candidate perspectives while recognizing that priorities and municipal responsibilities vary across Niagara's twelve local municipalities.

Candidates were asked about issues affecting residents, businesses and communities, including **housing affordability and supply, property taxes and municipal spending, economic development and job creation, infrastructure investment, municipal service delivery, regional collaboration, and community priorities and growth management.**

Responses are presented throughout this report by municipality to allow voters to review and compare the perspectives of candidates seeking office within their communities.

Candidate Participation Overview By Municipality

Municipality	Mayoral Candidate	Responses Received	Councillor Candidates	Responses Received	Total Candidates	Response Rate
Fort Erie	4	3	15	8	19	57.9%
Grimsby	4	2	18	7	22	40.9%
Lincoln	3	2	10	9	13	84.6%
Niagara Falls	5	3	30	22	35	71.4%
Niagara-on-the-Lake	3	2	11	7	14	64.3%
Pelham	4	4	13	7	17	64.7%
Port Colborne	5	3	16	11	21	66.7%
St. Catharines	5	4	31	22	36	72.2%
Thorold	2	1	22	15	24	66.7%
Wainfleet	2	2	10	4	12	50%
Welland	8	8	36	18	44	59.1%
West Lincoln	1	1	11	6	12	58.3%
Total	**46**	**35**	**223**	**136**	**269**	**63.6%**

Region-Wide Candidate Engagement

Survey responses were received from candidates across Niagara's twelve municipalities, providing voters with direct access to a broad collection of local candidate perspectives.

The candidate responses that follow are presented to help voters better understand the priorities and perspectives of those who participated in the survey.

The Niagara Business Alliance is grateful to all candidates who took the time to participate and share their perspectives, contributing to informed civic engagement across Niagara Region.

HOW TO USE THIS REPORT

This report is organized by municipality to help voters across Niagara easily find, review and compare the perspectives of candidates running in the 2026 municipal elections.

The Niagara Business Alliance has presented candidate responses in a consistent format to support informed, independent decision-making.

Finding Your Municipality

The report includes all 12 local municipalities in Niagara, presented alphabetically. Readers can use the **Municipality Index** at the beginning of the report to navigate directly to their community.

Each municipality begins with an overview that includes:

- A brief community profile using 2021 Census data and current municipal election information.
- A list of registered mayoral and councillor candidates.
- Links to the mayoral and councillor response sections.

Candidate Participation

All registered candidates were invited to participate in the survey.

Municipal candidate lists include all registered candidates, regardless of whether they participated. However, individual response sections include only candidates who submitted a completed survey by the established deadline.

Candidates who did not participate remain listed on their municipality's overview page but do not have an individual response section.

Participation in the survey was voluntary and should not be interpreted as an endorsement or assessment of any candidate.

Understanding Candidate Responses

Responses are organized by municipality and office sought, with mayoral and councillor candidates presented separately.

Participating candidates received the same questions within their respective survey category, allowing readers to review and compare responses from candidates seeking the same type of office.

Depending on the question, responses may be presented as:

- **Ranked priorities:** Issues displayed in the order selected by the candidate.
- **Multiple-choice or selected responses:** The option or options chosen by the candidate.
- **Agreement statements:** The candidate's selected level of agreement with a statement.
- **Written responses:** The candidate's answer presented in full, subject only to minor formatting adjustments.

Where a participating candidate did not answer a particular question, this is identified as **No Response Provided**.

A response option that was not selected should not be interpreted as an explicit disagreement unless the question was designed to measure agreement or disagreement.

Comparing Responses

The survey questions were developed to explore issues relevant to Niagara's business community, including housing, economic development, infrastructure, municipal services and governance.

Readers are encouraged to consider candidate responses in their entirety, recognizing that individual priorities, approaches and perspectives may differ.

Responses are generally presented as submitted. Minor administrative or formatting adjustments may have been made to improve consistency and readability without intentionally changing the substance or meaning of a candidate's answer.

Navigating the Digital Report

The digital PDF includes navigation links to help readers move between municipalities and candidate response sections.

Readers can select their municipality from the opening index and use the available links to access the corresponding mayoral or councillor responses.

PDF bookmarks and search functions may also be used to locate specific municipalities, candidates or topics, depending on the PDF viewer.

Important Note

The **Niagara Business Alliance does not endorse any candidate, campaign, political party or political platform.**

The responses contained in this report reflect the views submitted by individual candidates and do not necessarily represent the positions of the Niagara Business Alliance or its member organizations.

Readers are encouraged to review candidate responses carefully, consult additional sources of information and make their own informed voting decisions.

FORT ERIE

Candidate Responses

← Return to Municipality List

2021 Census Community Profile	
Population (2021)	32,901
Population Growth (2016-2021)	+7.1%
Median Age	51.6 years
Occupied Dwellings	14,081
Land Area	166.24 km^2

Source: Statistics Canada 2021 Census Profile and Focus on Geography Series, 2021 Census.

Mayoral Candidates | 4 Registered | 3 Survey Responses

View Mayoral Responses →

Mike Campbell
Tom Insinna
Juan Liu
Wayne Redekop

Councillor Candidates | 15 Registered | 8 Survey Responses

View Councillor Responses →

Scott Boumeester (5)
Joan Christensen (4)
Nick Dubanow (2)
Darren Flagg (3)
Andrew Holdsworth (3)
Tom Lewis (5)
George McDermott (1)
Tavis McGlashan (4)
Thomas Mete (5)
Jon Nadeau (2)
Ann-Marie Noyes (6)
Matt Paul (4)
Jennifer Priestley (3)
Kassandra Ryerson (5)
Daniel Turner (Ward 4)

** Numbers in parentheses indicate the ward in which each candidate is running.*
** Names shown in **bolded green** indicate candidates acclaimed to office.*

Visit the Town's Election Page for Certified Candidate Contact Information.

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Fort Erie | 2026 Municipal Election

TOM INSINNA

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Infrastructure renewal
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Community services and recreation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Faster planning approvals
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Remain unchanged
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Remain with Niagara Region
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Remain with Niagara Region

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

Use them only as a last resort after attempting to build Council consensus.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Customer service and digital modernization
2	Economic development and business attraction
3	Housing and affordability

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I would grow our industrial and commercial base in the Town which would allow for more jobs and uplift the sagging economy that currently exists. Our Town has been spinning its wheels in the sand, it is time to move forward.

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Fort Erie | 2026 Municipal Election

JUAN LIU

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Economic development and job creation
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Increasing housing supply and attainability
04	Cost of living and affordability
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Community services and recreation
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation whenever possible

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Downtown revitalization
- Workforce development and skilled trades
- Other: Taking into account environmental protection, obtaining technological patents, adopting a completely new democratic economic model, all employees and the entire society exercise the corporate sovereignty together, The enterprise is jointly owned by all the employees of the enterprise.and share the benefits.

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Transfer to Local Municipality
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Police and public safety	Transfer to Local Municipality
Public health and paramedic services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Transfer to Local Municipality
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Remain unchanged

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

Use them proactively to accelerate Council priorities and provincial objectives.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Economic development and business attraction
2	Housing and affordability
3	Other: Hospital, community facilities (sovereignty-in-the-people facilities), park, leisure and entertainment

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Using local advantages scientifically:developing fisheries and water-area tourism by water;engaging in comprehensive mutual benefit with US by border;attracting Great falls tourists more to experience our richer and colorful life by land and water;using technology by patents,without competitive pressure and waste;assisting to earning money from world by your chamber of commerce!

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Fort Erie | 2026 Municipal Election

WAYNE REDEKOP

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Increasing housing supply and attainability
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Environmental sustainability
06	Infrastructure renewal
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Community services and recreation
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Investment in roads and infrastructure

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Neutral
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Transfer to Local Municipality
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Remain with Niagara Region
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Transfer to Local Municipality

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

I would not intend to use these powers except where legally required.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Economic development and business attraction
2	Housing and affordability
3	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

The local municipalities and Region now have a unique opportunity to revisit the alignment of services and infrastructure and ensure that efficiency, transparency and responsiveness to residents and businesses are pursued. The revitalization of Douglas Memorial and greater access to health services are paramount and would benefit all of Niagara.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

FORT ERIE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE COMPARISON

A snapshot of received responses to key questions from the 2026 Niagara Municipal Candidate Survey.

Mayoral Candidate	Top 3 Municipal Priorities	Top 3 Budget Priorities
TOM INSINNA	1. Minimal property tax increases 2. Cost of living & affordability 3. Economic development	1. Customer service 2. Economic development 3. Housing & affordability
JUAN LIU	1. Economic development 2. Minimal property tax increases 3. Housing supply & attainability	1. Economic development 2. Housing & affordability 3. Hospital & facilities
WAYNE REDEKOP	1. Cost of living & affordability 2. Housing supply & attainability 3. Minimal property tax increases	1. Economic development 2. Housing & affordability 3. Infrastructure

About this comparison: This snapshot highlights each responding mayoral candidate's three highest-ranked municipal priorities and three selected budget priorities. Complete responses, including positions on housing, taxation, governance and municipal services, are available in the full survey report. The Niagara Business Alliance does not endorse candidates.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Fort Erie | 2026 Municipal Election

SCOTT BOUMEESTER

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 5

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
04	Cost of living and affordability
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Infrastructure renewal
07	Waste collection and disposal
08	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Community services and recreation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Tourism investment

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Simple-Let me make this clear. We need to grow Niagara's economy without putting more pressure on taxpayers. Support our local businesses, attract new investment, create good jobs and build the tax base. That gives us the money to invest in healthcare, infrastructure and the people who need our help.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Fort Erie | 2026 Municipal Election

JOAN CHRISTENSEN

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 4

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Economic development and job creation
02	Increasing housing supply and attainability
03	Community services and recreation
04	Environmental sustainability
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Cost of living and affordability
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting):

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- None of the above

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Support increases above inflation when necessary to improve services

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Healthcare retention and enhancement

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Oppose
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

It's my 2nd term - ensuring that all components of economic and social prosperity are in place: good jobs, mix of housing, supports for families and seniors, local commercial/industrial opportunities, local healthcare options, recreational and cultural facilities and programs, etc..

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Fort Erie | 2026 Municipal Election

NICK DUBANOW

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 2

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Economic development and job creation
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Community services and recreation
06	Environmental sustainability
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Tourism investment
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Neutral
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Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Strongly oppose municipal amalgamation and demonstrate business case to stand alone, as this will ensure that investments made by local residents in their infrastructure and services are not stolen by larger municipalities with less prudent financial management.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Fort Erie | 2026 Municipal Election

DARREN FLAGG

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 3

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Environmental sustainability
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
09	Community services and recreation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Transit improvements

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Neutral
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Increase in serviced industrial lands

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Fort Erie | 2026 Municipal Election

JONATHAN NADEAU

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 2

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
06	Community services and recreation
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Infrastructure renewal
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion responsible growth that brings good-paying jobs to Fort Erie while ensuring our infrastructure and public services keep pace. We need to attract investment, support local businesses and skilled trades, and create more opportunities for residents to build their careers and their lives right here in our community.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Fort Erie | 2026 Municipal Election

MATT PAUL

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 4

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Infrastructure renewal
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
07	Community services and recreation
08	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Lower municipal taxes and fees

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

The single most important action I would champion is a Niagara-wide "growth with accountability" agenda that makes it easier to invest, build, hire and do business here while protecting taxpayers and essential community services. That means faster and more predictable approvals, disciplined municipal spending, infrastructure that supports growth, and stronger cooperation between municipalities, Niagara Region, local employers and senior governments.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Fort Erie | 2026 Municipal Election

JENNIFER PRIESTLEY

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 3

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
03	Increasing housing supply and attainability
04	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Infrastructure renewal
09	Community services and recreation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

If elected, I will champion responsible growth by strengthening local businesses, attracting sustainable investment, expanding affordable and seniors' housing, and protecting essential community services. My priority will be building a Niagara where families, seniors, and businesses can thrive while ensuring growth strengthens—not compromises—the communities we call home.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Fort Erie | 2026 Municipal Election

DANIEL TURNER

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE
WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 4

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Community services and recreation
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Expanded industrial land development
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion attracting industrial and manufacturing investment to grow Niagara's commercial tax base. Expanding that base creates good local jobs and shifts more of the tax load off homeowners, easing pressure on residential property taxes and making home ownership more affordable for families across the region.

GRIMSBY

Candidate Responses

← Return to Municipality List

2021 Census Community Profile	
Population (2021)	28,883
Population Growth (2016-2021)	+5.7%
Median Age	45.2 years
Occupied Dwellings	11,395
Land Area	68.71 km^2

Source: Statistics Canada 2021 Census Profile and Focus on Geography Series, 2021 Census.

Mayoral Candidates | 4 Registered | 2 Survey Responses

View Mayoral Responses →

Veronica Charrois
Simon Duong
Jeff Jordan
Michelle Seaborn

Councillor Candidates | 18 Registered | 7 Survey Responses

View Councillor Responses →

Jacob Baradziej (3)
George Bodnar (1)
Ryan Day (3)
Nick DiFlavio (4)
John Dunstall (3)
Wayne Fertich (4)
Reg Freake (4)
Don Howe (2)
Joanne Johnston (3)
Jennifer Korstanje (3)
Amy Lupton (3)
Jonathan Polowick (3)
Ben Purkiss (2)
Kevin Ritchie (1)

** Numbers in parentheses indicate the ward in which each candidate is running.*

Visit the Town's Election Page for Certified Candidate Contact Information.

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Grimsby | 2026 Municipal Election

JEFF JORDAN

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Economic development and job creation
06	Environmental sustainability
07	Community services and recreation
08	Infrastructure renewal
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation whenever possible

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Faster planning approvals
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Transfer to Local Municipality
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain unchanged
Police and public safety	Remain unchanged
Public health and paramedic services	Remain unchanged
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Transfer to Local Municipality
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Transfer to Local Municipality

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

Use them only as a last resort after attempting to build Council consensus.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Housing and affordability
2	Public safety
3	Other: A fulsome review of all staffing and services at the regional level

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

We need to continue to work at a full review of all Niagara Regional services. This review needs to be a comprehensive value and efficiency service and staff review.

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Grimsby | 2026 Municipal Election

MICHELLE SEABORN

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Infrastructure renewal
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
07	Community services and recreation
08	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Faster planning approvals
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Remain unchanged
Housing, homelessness, and social services	No Response Provided
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Transfer to Local Municipality
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Remain unchanged

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

Use them only as a last resort after attempting to build Council consensus.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Economic development and business attraction
2	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)
3	Public safety

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Cut red tape, work with developers, encourage business, manufacturing and light industrial. Economic development is a win/win; it generates tax income, brings in jobs, encourages local shopping, attracts home buyers.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

GRIMBSY

MAYORAL CANDIDATE COMPARISON

A snapshot of received responses to key questions from the 2026 Niagara Municipal Candidate Survey.

Mayoral Candidate	Top 3 Municipal Priorities	Top 3 Budget Priorities
JEFF JORDAN	1. Minimal property tax increases 2. Cost of living & affordability 3. Food insecurity & mental health	1. Housing & affordability 2. Public safety 3. Regional review of services
MICHELLE SEABORN	1. Cost of living & affordability 2. Minimal property tax increases 3. Economic development	1. Economic development 2. Infrastructure 3. Public safety

About this comparison: This snapshot highlights each responding mayoral candidate's three highest-ranked municipal priorities and three selected budget priorities. Complete responses, including positions on housing, taxation, governance and municipal services, are available in the full survey report. The Niagara Business Alliance does not endorse candidates.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Grimsby | 2026 Municipal Election

JACOB BARADZIEJ

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 3

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
07	Community services and recreation
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Transit improvements

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

This will be my 2nd term, but I will champion revitalizing the multiple waterfront parks in Grimsby that have sat derelict for well over a decade. These parks can offer residents social prosperity with the ability to walk and enjoy beautiful Lake Ontario, but they are currently fenced off and eroding away.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Grimsby | 2026 Municipal Election

RYAN DAY

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 3

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Community services and recreation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Bring together Municipalities. Create good jobs to retain people in the region, housing and affordability, and infrastructure to support growth.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Grimsby | 2026 Municipal Election

NICK DIFLAVIO

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 4

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Infrastructure renewal
05	Community services and recreation
06	Environmental sustainability
07	Increasing housing supply and attainability
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Expanded industrial land development
- Investment in roads and infrastructure

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Elimination of redundancies between Regional and town government. I don't think that we need regional planning staff for example and I think that entire department (or at least most of that department) should be eliminated.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Grimsby | 2026 Municipal Election

JONATHAN POLOWICK

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 3

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Community services and recreation
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Cost of living and affordability
04	Infrastructure renewal
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Increasing housing supply and attainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Support increases above inflation when necessary to improve services

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Tourism investment

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Oppose

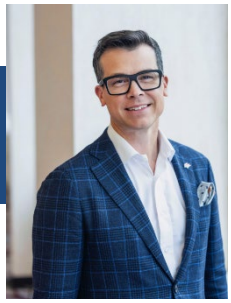
FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Business owners take on incredible risk and make our community a better place. My priority would be making Grimsby a better place to do business through adequate policing and infrastructure, less red tape, and shorter wait times for basic planning requests. Let's start with listening to what business owners need.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Grimsby | 2026 Municipal Election



BEN PURKISS

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 2

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Community services and recreation
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Tourism investment

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Oppose
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I would support the development of expanded medical facilities in Grimsby. We have an opportunity to build up our medical community, which will support economic growth for the entire region.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Grimsby | 2026 Municipal Election

KEVIN RITCHIE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
04	Community services and recreation
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Infrastructure renewal
07	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Support increases above inflation when necessary to improve services

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion responsible fiscal stewardship by prioritizing core infrastructure and essential services. By focusing on smart, cost effective capital investments and transparent municipal budgeting, we can keep local taxes manageable, attract sustainable economic growth, and build a safer, more resilient community

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Grimsby | 2026 Municipal Election

MARGOT SMEENK

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Cost of living and affordability
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Environmental sustainability
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Community services and recreation
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Neutral
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion infrastructure renewal and expansion, which support economic and social prosperity. Roads, transit, watermains and stormwater infrastructure all need to be sufficient and in good repair.

LINCOLN

Candidate Responses

← Return to Municipality List

2021 Census Community Profile	
Population (2021)	25,719
Population Growth (2016-2021)	+8.1%
Median Age	44.4 years
Occupied Dwellings	9,555
Land Area	162.74 km^2

Source: Statistics Canada 2021 Census Profile and Focus on Geography Series, 2021 Census.

Mayoral Candidates | 3 Registered | 2 Survey Responses

View Mayoral Responses →

Cheryl Keddy-Scott
Greg Reimer
Adam Russell

Councillor Candidates | 10 Registered | 9 Survey Responses

View Councillor Responses →

Tony Brunet (2)
Canaan El-Hassan (1)
Carlo Filice (1)
Natalie Gervason (2)
Mike Mikolic (3)
John Pachereva (2)
Dianne Rintjema (1)
Shawn Stryker (3)
Lynn Timmers (3)
Justin Zegers (1)

** Numbers in parentheses indicate the ward in which each candidate is running.*

Visit the Town's Election Page for Certified Candidate Contact Information.

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Lincoln | 2026 Municipal Election

CHERYL KEDDY SCOTT

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Cost of living and affordability
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Waste collection and disposal
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Community services and recreation
10	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Pre-zoning land for housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation whenever possible

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Transfer to Local Municipality
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Remain with Niagara Region
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Transfer to Local Municipality

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

I would not intend to use these powers except where legally required.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Economic development and business attraction
2	Housing and affordability
3	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Infrastructure Growth Plan Bring all levels of government together to secure funding for roads, water, wastewater, stormwater. in order to keep pace with growth this creates economic opportunity, and preserves Niagara's quality of life.

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Lincoln | 2026 Municipal Election

ADAM RUSSELL

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Community services and recreation
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Waste collection and disposal
08	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
09	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Tourism investment

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Remain unchanged
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Remain with Niagara Region
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Remain with Niagara Region

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

I would not intend to use these powers except where legally required.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Customer service and digital modernization
2	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)
3	Public safety

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

From a regional standpoint we need to evaluate the services and costs to ensure we have efficiencies and value being returned to the Local Area Municipalities where the taxes are being paid. I think improving efficiencies will increase our economic output.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

LINCOLN

MAYORAL CANDIDATE COMPARISON

A snapshot of received responses to key questions from the 2026 Niagara Municipal Candidate Survey.

Mayoral Candidate	Top 3 Municipal Priorities	Top 3 Budget Priorities
CHERYL KEDDY SCOTT	1. Minimal property tax increases 2. Infrastructure renewal 3. Cost of living & affordability	1. Economic development 2. Housing & affordability 3. Infrastructure
ADAM RUSSELL	1. Infrastructure renewal 2. Cost of living & affordability 3. Economic development	1. Customer service 2. Infrastructure 3. Public safety

About this comparison: This snapshot highlights each responding mayoral candidate's three highest-ranked municipal priorities and three selected budget priorities. Complete responses, including positions on housing, taxation, governance and municipal services, are available in the full survey report. The Niagara Business Alliance does not endorse candidates.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Lincoln | 2026 Municipal Election

CANAAN EL-HASSAN

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
06	Community services and recreation
07	Economic development and job creation
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Transit improvements
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I would focus on making Lincoln a place people can actually afford to build a life in. That means being careful with taxpayers' money, creating more attainable housing options, and making decisions with the cost of living in mind. People shouldn't feel like leaving is their only option to get ahead.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Lincoln | 2026 Municipal Election

CARLO FILICE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Increasing housing supply and attainability
04	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Community services and recreation
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Pre-zoning land for housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Tourism investment

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Neutral
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

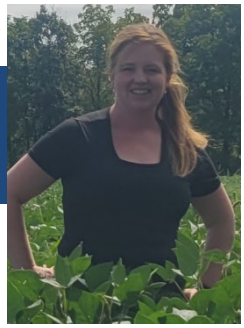
FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion responsible economic growth by supporting local businesses, attracting new investment, and creating good-paying jobs while ensuring growth is matched with the infrastructure, housing, and community services needed to maintain Niagara's quality of life.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Lincoln | 2026 Municipal Election



NATALIE GERVASON

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 2

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
05	Community services and recreation
06	Infrastructure renewal
07	Increasing housing supply and attainability
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Workforce development and skilled trades
-

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Neutral
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Communication and encouraging community involvement. The role of councilor is to represent the community. Feedback and engagement is required to prioritize, inform, and make decisions that are proactive rather than reactive for both residents and local businesses.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Lincoln | 2026 Municipal Election

MIKE MIKOLIC

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 3

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Community services and recreation
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Making an effort to gain back confidence from residents that their hydro will stay on, toilets will flush, and basements stay dry

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Lincoln | 2026 Municipal Election

JOHN (JD) PACHEREVA

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 2

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Economic development and job creation
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
06	Community services and recreation
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Residents need to be able to afford to live here while existing homeowners need confidence that municipal taxes and infrastructure costs are being managed responsibly.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Lincoln | 2026 Municipal Election

DIANNE RINTJEMA

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Environmental sustainability
07	Economic development and job creation
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Community services and recreation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Transit improvements
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Neutral
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Continue on the path of exploring shared service options. Continue to push for increased Go Transit service through to Niagara Falls.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Lincoln | 2026 Municipal Election

SHAWN STRYKER

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 3

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Community services and recreation
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape
-

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

If elected the singe most important action that I will champion is responsible growth that keeps Niagara affordable and sustainable for the people who already live here.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Lincoln | 2026 Municipal Election

LYNN TIMMERS

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 3

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
04	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Infrastructure renewal
07	Community services and recreation
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Economic development and job creation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Transit improvements
- Tourism investment
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Neutral
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Affordable housing, work skills job training, transit, promote tourism and job creation, maintain community neighbourhoods and provide services and needed programs for residents. Keep taxes low and life affordable.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Lincoln | 2026 Municipal Election

JUSTIN ZEGERS

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
07	Community services and recreation
08	Increasing housing supply and attainability
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape
-

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Any cost savings be given back to residents and small businesses so they can reinvest it into their businesses and community

NIAGARA FALLS

Candidate Responses

← Return to Municipality List

2021 Census Community Profile	
Population (2021)	94,415
Population Growth (2016-2021)	+7.2%
Median Age	43.9 years
Occupied Dwellings	37,793
Land Area	209.73 km^2

Source: Statistics Canada 2021 Census Profile and Focus on Geography Series, 2021 Census.

Mayoral Candidates | 5 Registered | 3 Survey Responses

View Mayoral Responses →

Jim Diodati
Lorie Lococo
Michael Lucid
Paul Manning
Kevin Martineau

Councillor Candidates | 30 Registered | 22 Survey Responses

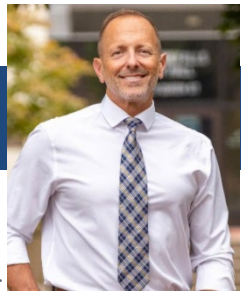
View Councillor Responses →

Fred Audibert
Gary Baker
Tony Baldinelli
Rob Barranca
Joedy Burdett
Darlene Cane
Kim Craitor
Chris Dabrowski
Frank De Luca
Sheila Deluca
Dan Giancola
Tawnya Hartford
Carmine Ioannoni
Lilian Lum Mbah
Rich Merlino
Dan Moody
Joyce Morocco
Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg
Carm Notarinni
Shane O'Connell
Mona Patel
Brad Pine
Aaron Ramnarine
Nohemi Renteria
Chris Rigas
Mike Strange
Celia Taylor
Terry Thomson
Jitto Tom
Brian Winrow

Visit the City's Election Page for Certified Candidate Contact Information.

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election



JIM DIODATI

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Economic development and job creation
02	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Community services and recreation
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Cost of living and affordability
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Neutral
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Neutral
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Transfer to Local Municipality
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Remain with Niagara Region
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Remain with Niagara Region

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

Use them only as a last resort after attempting to build Council consensus.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Economic development and business attraction
2	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)
3	Public safety

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

More and better jobs.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

LORI LOCOCO

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Economic development and job creation
06	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Community services and recreation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Faster planning approvals
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Unsure
Economic Development	Unsure
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Unsure
Police and public safety	Unsure
Public health and paramedic services	Unsure
Roads and transportation	Unsure
Waste collection and diversion	Unsure
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Unsure

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

I would not intend to use these powers except where legally required.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Economic development and business attraction
2	Housing and affordability
3	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Control spending. Zero based budgeting, analyze expenses, good value for taxes

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

MICHAEL LUCID

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
05	Environmental sustainability
06	Community services and recreation
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Infrastructure renewal
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Increasing housing supply and attainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation whenever possible

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Downtown revitalization
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Other: Level playing field. No corporate welfare or special-interest subsidies.

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Unsure
Economic Development	Unsure
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Unsure
Waste collection and diversion	Remain with Niagara Region
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Unsure

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

Use them only in limited circumstances when there is a clear public benefit.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)
2	Public safety
3	Parks, recreation and community amenities

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly oppose

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Make Niagara Falls the highest-vibration city in the world: safe, healthy, happy, beautiful and alive. Invest in people and public spaces, unleash local business and tourism, and measure everything by results. A city people love living in becomes a city people want to visit, invest in and build in.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

NIAGARA FALLS

MAYORAL CANDIDATE COMPARISON

A snapshot of received responses to key questions from the 2026 Niagara Municipal Candidate Survey.

Mayoral Candidate	Top 3 Municipal Priorities	Top 3 Budget Priorities
JIM DIODATI	1. Economic development 2. Public safety & emergency serv. 3. Minimal property tax increases	1. Economic development 2. Infrastructure 3. Public safety
LORI LOCOCO	1. Cost of living & affordability 2. Minimal property tax increases 3. Infrastructure renewal	1. Economic development 2. Housing & affordability 3. Infrastructure
MICHAEL LUCID	1. Cost of living & affordability 2. Public safety & emergency serv. 3. Economic development	1. Infrastructure 2. Public safety 3. Parks & recreation

About this comparison: This snapshot highlights each responding mayoral candidate's three highest-ranked municipal priorities and three selected budget priorities. Complete responses, including positions on housing, taxation, governance and municipal services, are available in the full survey report. The Niagara Business Alliance does not endorse candidates.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

FRED AUDIBERT

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Community services and recreation
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Transit improvements

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly oppose

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion a residents-first agenda: putting the brakes on unaffordable tax increases, ensuring vale for money, fixing our roads and sewer systems, and prioritizing health, safety, and community well-being.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

GARY BAKER

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Economic development and job creation
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Infrastructure renewal
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
07	Community services and recreation
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Expanded industrial land development
- Lower municipal taxes and fees

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat oppose

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Listen to the people. Tell them what the city is doing No close doors

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

JOEDY BURDETT

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Community services and recreation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion a public review of spending and service delivery, with measurable performance standards. By eliminating waste and unnecessary red tape while protecting essential services, we can restrain property taxes and redirect savings toward infrastructure, attainable housing approvals, and the conditions businesses need to invest and create jobs.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

KIM CRAITOR

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
04	Waste collection and disposal
05	Environmental sustainability
06	Cost of living and affordability
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Increasing housing supply and attainability
09	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
10	Community services and recreation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
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Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Not applicable

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will listen, I will learn and then I will use, working with you my nearly 40 years of experience an action plan that will work.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

FRANK DE LUCA

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Increasing housing supply and attainability
04	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
05	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Infrastructure renewal
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Community services and recreation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Transit improvements

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

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Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly oppose

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

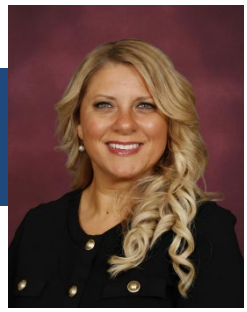
If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Deliver historic 5% tax rebate ($250 average household) every year by selling city's $80 million real estate vacant land and abandoned buildings, freezing hiring and spending and eliminating lobbyists, consultants and contractors where feasible and buying 100% Local products and services. More information at frank-deluca.com.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election



SHEILA DELUCA

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Cost of living and affordability
05	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
06	Community services and recreation
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Increasing housing supply and attainability
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Transit improvements
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

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Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

If elected, my first priority will be championing accountability for every taxpayer dollar. I will work with residents, businesses, and community partners to ensure our investments address the priorities that matter most: roads and infrastructure, healthcare (to act as a liason between resident and Niagara Health) jobs, safety and sustainable growth.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

DANIEL GIANCOLA

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Infrastructure renewal
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Community services and recreation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Expanded industrial land development
- Lower municipal taxes and fees

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I would love the opportunity to be part of the Niagara Airport expansion as I believe this initiative has so much to offer to our region.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

CARMINE IOANNONI

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Economic development and job creation
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Infrastructure renewal
07	Increasing housing supply and attainability
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Community services and recreation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Tourism investment

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Neutral
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

From an economic development perspective only, without downplaying the needs to address the social issues currently facing Niagara, the marketing of our City as a multi faceted municipality where tourism can co-exist with various other types of industries. With the opening of the new hospital there is an opportunity to attract and develop the surrounding lands with non-tourism related industries.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

LILIAN LUM MBAH

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
02	Increasing housing supply and attainability
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Community services and recreation
05	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
06	Cost of living and affordability
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Infrastructure renewal
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
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Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion a Niagara Falls Community Prosperity Strategy that brings government, businesses, nonprofits and residents together to expand mental-health supports, reduce homelessness, food and housing insecurity, strengthen local businesses, create jobs, and improve access to opportunity, because progress happens when neighbours work together and no one is left behind.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

RICH MERLINO

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
02	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Waste collection and disposal
07	Cost of living and affordability
08	Increasing housing supply and attainability
09	Community services and recreation
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
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Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Municipal purchasing contracts should go to local contractors/service providers whenever possible.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

DAN MOODY

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
02	Increasing housing supply and attainability
03	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Cost of living and affordability
06	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
07	Infrastructure renewal
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Community services and recreation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

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Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will strongly support any measures. It takes to assist our homelessness and our drug issues. This area of concern is important so our area will be more attractive and safe for the future.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

JOYCE MOROCCO

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
03	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Cost of living and affordability
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Increasing housing supply and attainability
09	Community services and recreation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Infill areas that need to be revitalized

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

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Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Continue to request highly supportive housing for those individuals with chronic mental health and severe drug additions. We need to end encampments and shelters. People need to live in dignity.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

RUTH-ANN NIEUWESTEEG

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Increasing housing supply and attainability
04	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
05	Economic development and job creation
06	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Community services and recreation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Lower municipal taxes and fees

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

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Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I would support job creation by attracting new investment, businesses and industry to Niagara Falls\. This would help to strengthen our tax base and support local businesses while providing good paying jobs for our residents\.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

CARM NOTARIANNI

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Cost of living and affordability
04	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
05	Environmental sustainability
06	Infrastructure renewal
07	Waste collection and disposal
08	Increasing housing supply and attainability
09	Community services and recreation
10	Economic development and job creation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals:
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

A cleaner, safer stronger Niagara for all of its residents.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

SHANE O'CONNELL

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Economic development and job creation
06	Infrastructure renewal
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Community services and recreation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Tourism investment

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I would personally like to see the downtown revitalized and become more if an attraction for locals and tourists as this will create jobs as well....also I would like to see the marineland property become a beautiful amusement park and concert grounds with camping...huge amount of jobs and financial income for the city.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

MONA PATEL

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Economic development and job creation
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Infrastructure renewal
07	Community services and recreation
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Increasing housing supply and attainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion responsible growth that creates good local jobs, attracts new investment and gets more housing built, while continuing to push for more shelter beds, supportive housing and stronger action on food insecurity. Growth should mean more opportunity for residents and practical solutions to the challenges facing Niagara Falls.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

AARON RAMNARINE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
04	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
05	Environmental sustainability
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Infrastructure renewal
08	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
09	Community services and recreation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Transit improvements

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

the first action I would take is cutting red tape that slows down affordable housing and start locking down college/university to job pipelines to help young workers live and work in niagara

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

NOHEMI RENTERIA

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Economic development and job creation
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
06	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
07	Infrastructure renewal
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Community services and recreation
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat oppose

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion responsible economic growth by attracting new invesments and good local jobs, strengthening infrastructure, supporting small businesses, and ensuring growth benefits residents. A stronger local economy can improve affordability, expand opportunities for families and seniors, and provide the foundation for safer, healthier communities.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

CHRIS RIGAS

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Infrastructure renewal
05	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Waste collection and disposal
08	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Community services and recreation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Opposing all tax, DC and permit increases. Cost of doing business and living starts at the municipal level. We MUST control these foundational inflationary pressure points.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

TERRY THOMSON

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Community services and recreation
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Neutral
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I think the most important issue is raising funds for the south end wastewater plant so our development isn't stalled by inefficient sewer services.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

JITTO TOM

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Infrastructure renewal
07	Community services and recreation
08	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Tourism investment

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Affordable Property Taxes, Support Local Businesses, New Investments & Creation of more jobs, Support Affordable Housing projects.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara Falls | 2026 Municipal Election

BRIAN WINROW

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
02	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Cost of living and affordability
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Infrastructure renewal
07	Community services and recreation
08	Economic development and job creation
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

My commitment is to put Niagara Falls first by focusing on responsible growth, supporting local businesses, improving our infrastructure, creating good local jobs, and making our city a safer, more affordable and welcoming place to live. I'll listen to residents, work with council and, most importantly, follow through.

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

Candidate Responses

← Return to Municipality List

2021 Census Community Profile	
Population (2021)	19,088
Population Growth (2016-2021)	+9.0%
Median Age	57.2years
Occupied Dwellings	7,857
Land Area	131.35 km^2

Source: Statistics Canada 2021 Census Profile and Focus on Geography Series, 2021 Census.

Lord Mayoral Candidates | 3 Registered | 2 Survey Responses

View Lord Mayoral Responses →

Vaughan Goettler
Andrea Kaiser
Erwin Wiens

Councillor Candidates | 11 Registered | 7 Survey Responses

View Councillor Responses →

Tim Balasiuk
Gary Burroughs
Andriana Cater-Vizzari
Nicholas Colaneri
Karen Jones-Taylor
Maria Mavridis
Steve McGuinness
Weston Miller
Rick Mills
Andrew Niven
Sandra O'Connor

Visit the Town's Election Page for Certified Candidate Contact Information.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

LORD MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara-on-the-Lake | 2026 Municipal Election

VAUGHN GOETTLER

LORD MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Community services and recreation
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
05	Cost of living and affordability
06	Environmental sustainability
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Increasing housing supply and attainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation whenever possible

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Transfer to Local Municipality
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Remain unchanged
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Remain unchanged

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

I would not intend to use these powers except where legally required.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Customer service and digital modernization
2	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)
3	Transit and transportation

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly oppose

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

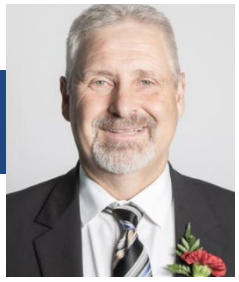
If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

For Niagara's economic and social prosperity overall, I will work together at the Niagara Region Council table to increase good jobs, listen to local businesses, and encourage more investment in this amazing region.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

LORD MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara-on-the-Lake | 2026 Municipal Election



ERWIN WIENS

LORD MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Economic development and job creation
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Community services and recreation
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation whenever possible

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	No Response Provided
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Transfer to Local Municipality
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Transfer to Local Municipality

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

I would not intend to use these powers except where legally required.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Customer service and digital modernization
2	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)
3	Parks, recreation and community amenities

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Ensure that amalgamation does not occur, protecting local decision-making and keeping control of our town

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

LORD MAYORAL CANDIDATE COMPARISON

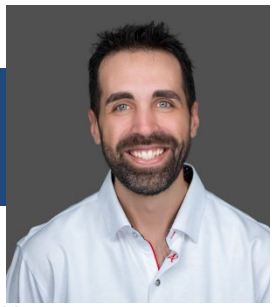
A snapshot of received responses to key questions from the 2026 Niagara Municipal Candidate Survey.

Lord Mayoral Candidate	Top 3 Municipal Priorities	Top 3 Budget Priorities
VAUGHN GOETTLER	1. Infrastructure renewa 2. Community services & recreation 3. Economic development	1. Customer service 2. Infrastructure 3. Transit & transportation
ERWIN WIENS	1.Minimal property tax increases 2. Cost of living & affordability 3. Infrastructure renewal	1. Customer service 2. Infrastructure 3. Parks & recreation

About this comparison: This snapshot highlights each responding lord mayoral candidate's three highest-ranked municipal priorities and three selected budget priorities. Complete responses, including positions on housing, taxation, governance and municipal services, are available in the full survey report. The Niagara Business Alliance does not endorse candidates.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara-on-the-Lake | 2026 Municipal Election



NICHOLAS COLANERI

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Environmental sustainability
05	Community services and recreation
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Increasing housing supply and attainability
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Transit improvements
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly oppose

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Every item that reaches Council leaves with a decision and a date. Prosperity does not wait on "later." I am a builder. On a site, a file that sits is a cost someone else is paying. I would hold Council to that same standard.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara-on-the-Lake | 2026 Municipal Election

KAREN JONES

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Environmental sustainability
03	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
04	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
05	Waste collection and disposal
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Cost of living and affordability
08	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
09	Community services and recreation
10	Increasing housing supply and attainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Transit improvements

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat oppose

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Number one is to listen to the people who feel that they are not being heard or that they have just become a number. Work with them on the Right Development, RIGHT Place RIGHT Scale and RIGHT Infrastructure.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara-on-the-Lake | 2026 Municipal Election

MARIA MAVRIDIS

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Environmental sustainability
04	Community services and recreation
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Cost of living and affordability
07	Economic development and job creation
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Increasing housing supply and attainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Workforce development and skilled trades
-

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
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Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

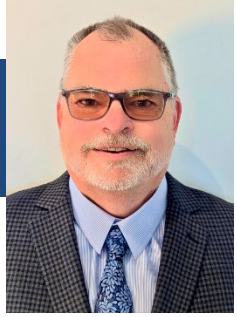
FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Collaboration among all municipalities in the Region.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara-on-the-Lake | 2026 Municipal Election



STEVE MCGUINNESS

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Environmental sustainability
04	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
05	Economic development and job creation
06	Community services and recreation
07	Increasing housing supply and attainability
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Transit improvements

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Enhance fiscal transparency and accountability so residents, businesses and property owners better understand the source and uses of municipal revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara-on-the-Lake | 2026 Municipal Election

RICK MILLS

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Economic development and job creation
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Community services and recreation
06	Infrastructure renewal
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation whenever possible

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Neutral
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Neutral
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

The question is the single most, in that case, it must be about people . All residents. Stay connected. Working together as a team within individual communities, and municipalities as a whole. Learn what is the communities's greatest strength and build from there. Recognizing weaknesses, improving performances in these areas.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara-on-the-Lake | 2026 Municipal Election

ANDREW NIVEN

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Community services and recreation
04	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
05	Cost of living and affordability
06	Environmental sustainability
07	Economic development and job creation
08	Increasing housing supply and attainability
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Tourism investment

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
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Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion responsible growth that is matched by the infrastructure, services and fiscal planning needed to support it. By investing in infrastructure, supporting local businesses and tourism, and ensuring development fits our communities, we can strengthen Niagara's economy while protecting affordability and quality of life.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Niagara-on-the-Lake | 2026 Municipal Election

SANDRA O'CONNOR

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Environmental sustainability
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Community services and recreation
05	Economic development and job creation
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Increasing housing supply and attainability
08	Cost of living and affordability
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Support increases above inflation when necessary to improve services

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Transit improvements
- encourage high tech hubs eg botechnolgy through partnerships with Niagara College and/or Brock U; deveop agricultual related added value induxtries

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat oppose

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I would maintain our employment land zoning to ensure there are lands for business to grow. I would ensure reliable public transportation for the workforce. I would encourage staff assigned to ec dev development to seek new types of businesses complementary to our existing economic drivers of agriculture and tourism.

PELHAM

Candidate Responses

← Return to Municipality List

2021 Census Community Profile	
Population (2021)	18,192
Population Growth (2016-2021)	+6.3%
Median Age	46.8 years
Occupied Dwellings	6,959
Land Area	126.35 km^2

Source: Statistics Canada 2021 Census Profile and Focus on Geography Series, 2021 Census.

Mayoral Candidates | 4 Registered | 4 Survey Responses

View Mayoral Responses →

Frank Adamson
Wally Braun
Randy Gananathan
Marvin Junkin

Councillor Candidates | 13 Registered | 7 Survey Responses

View Councillor Responses →

Bryce Brunarski (1)
Kevin James Coyle (3)
Jane Durotoye(3)
Brian Eckhardt (2)
Kevin Grebe (1)
Robert "Bob" Hildebrandt (3)
Kevin Ker (1)
Shellee Niznik (3)
Wayne Olson (1)
Georgio Panici (3)
Barbara Ann "Barb" Rybiak (2)
Thomas "Tom" Svob (2)
Jon Wink (2)

** Numbers in parentheses indicate the ward in which each candidate is running.*

Visit the Town's Election Page for Certified Candidate Contact Information.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Pelham | 2026 Municipal Election

FRANK ADAMSON

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Increasing housing supply and attainability
03	Cost of living and affordability
04	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
05	Environmental sustainability
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Community services and recreation
08	Infrastructure renewal
09	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	No Response Provided
Economic Development	Remain with Niagara Region
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Remain with Niagara Region
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Remain with Niagara Region

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

Use them only as a last resort after attempting to build Council consensus.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Housing and affordability
2	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)
3	Parks, recreation and community amenities

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Significantly reduce the amount of administration especially at the Region and reduce the use of consultants and eliminate the duplication of services between the Region and lower tier municipalities.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Pelham | 2026 Municipal Election

WALLY BRAUN

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Environmental sustainability
04	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
05	Economic development and job creation
06	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
07	Increasing housing supply and attainability
08	Community services and recreation
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation whenever possible

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Downtown revitalization
- Transit improvements
- Other: Scaling Pelham's Regional Competitiveness

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
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Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Transfer to Local Municipality
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Remain unchanged
Waste collection and diversion	Remain with Niagara Region
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Transfer to Local Municipality

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

I would not intend to use these powers except where legally required.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Climate resilience and environmental initiatives
2	Economic development and business attraction
3	Other: A Rising Tide for Pelham's Economy Pelham is currently decades behind in addressing energy-efficient infrastructure. While current leadership fails to modernize our grid, local businesses and residents pay the price through severe economic ineffi

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Prioritizing Efficiency Powers Economies. Sticking taxpayers with $20M of a $26M development bill is NOT efficient. Enabling cheap renewable power, local food irrigation, and smart zoning that unlocks enormous grants go well beyond property tax reductions. My Strategic Plan leverages all of these to substantially reduce our OVERALL cost of living.

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Pelham | 2026 Municipal Election

RANDY GANANATHAN

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Community services and recreation
05	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
06	Environmental sustainability
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Increasing housing supply and attainability
10	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation whenever possible

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Remain with Niagara Region
Economic Development	Remain with Niagara Region
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Remain with Niagara Region
Waste collection and diversion	Remain with Niagara Region
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Remain with Niagara Region

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

Use them proactively to accelerate Council priorities and provincial objectives.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Customer service and digital modernization
2	Economic development and business attraction
3	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Connectivity - Fast, reliable broadband and excellent cellular coverage across all of Pelham and Niagara Region.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Pelham | 2026 Municipal Election

MARV JUNKIN

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Increasing housing supply and attainability
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Environmental sustainability
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Community services and recreation
10	Infrastructure renewal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation whenever possible

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Downtown revitalization
- Faster planning approvals
- Lower municipal taxes and fees

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Remain with Niagara Region
Economic Development	Transfer to Local Municipality
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Remain with Niagara Region
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Transfer to Local Municipality

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

I would not intend to use these powers except where legally required.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Customer service and digital modernization
2	Housing and affordability
3	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Work with mayors to downsize region

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

PELHAM

MAYORAL CANDIDATE COMPARISON

A snapshot of received responses to key questions from the 2026 Niagara Municipal Candidate Survey.

Mayoral Candidate	Top 3 Municipal Priorities	Top 3 Budget Priorities
FRANK ADAMSON	1. Minimal property tax increases 2. Housing supply & attainability 3. Cost of living & affordability	1. Housing & affordability 2. Infrastructure 3. Parks & recreation
WALLY BRAUN	1. Cost of living & affordability 2. Infrastructure renewal 3. Environmental sustainability	1. Climate resilience 2. Economic development 3. Energy-efficient infrastructure
RANDY GANANATHAN	1. Cost of living & affordability 2. Economic development 3. Infrastructure renewal	1. Customer service 2. Economic development 3. Infrastructure
MARV JUNKIN	1. Cost of living & affordability 2. Minimal property tax increases 3. Housing supply & attainability	1. Customer service 2. Infrastructure 3. Parks & recreation

About this comparison: This snapshot highlights each responding mayoral candidate's three highest-ranked municipal priorities and three selected budget priorities. Complete responses, including positions on housing, taxation, governance and municipal services, are available in the full survey report. The Niagara Business Alliance does not endorse candidates.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Pelham | 2026 Municipal Election

BRYCE BRUNARSKI

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Increasing housing supply and attainability
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Cost of living and affordability
05	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Community services and recreation
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

If elected, I will champion responsible investment in the infrastructure our community and econonmy depend on. Roads, water, wastewater and other essential services while ensuring growth contributes its fair share. Strong instrastructure supports housing, attracts investment, creates business opportunities and protects the services residents rely on.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Pelham | 2026 Municipal Election

KEVIN COYLE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 3

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Infrastructure renewal
05	Community services and recreation
06	Environmental sustainability
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
10	Increasing housing supply and attainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
-
-

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I would champion an initiative to identify and evaluate all of Pelham's assets, what we own, what they cost, how they are being used, and whether residents are receiving the maximum benefit. Before spending more, we should ensure we are maximizing the financial and community value of what we already have.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Pelham | 2026 Municipal Election

KEVIN GREBE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Environmental sustainability
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Community services and recreation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Transit improvements
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I want to incorporate real issues into school curriculum, not just co-ops, or volunteer work, but actual issues that students can address throughout their school journeys, get educators who are interested and inspired along with local professionals for guidance and support, get the students taking this home to their families and parents will be indirectly participating.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Pelham | 2026 Municipal Election

SHELLEE NIZNIK

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 3

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Cost of living and affordability
04	Community services and recreation
05	Waste collection and disposal
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Increasing housing supply and attainability
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
10	Economic development and job creation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Tourism investment

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Neutral
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Support improved infrastructure with provincial funding and encourage green spaces in every neighborhood.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Pelham | 2026 Municipal Election

WAYNE OLSON

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Community services and recreation
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Infrastructure renewal
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Transit improvements

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Government has become addicted to consultants. I would raise the level of justification for consultants and use design and build techniques to reduce capital costs.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Pelham | 2026 Municipal Election

BARB RYBIAK

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
05	Waste collection and disposal
06	Community services and recreation
07	Economic development and job creation
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
10	Increasing housing supply and attainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- None of the above

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Transit improvements

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Managing the traffic volume on Highway 20 necessitates comprehensive urban planning from the three levels of government coming together to create a viable plan including expanded public transit, smart signalling, driver safety, strategic traffic calming measures and infrastructure upgrades.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Pelham | 2026 Municipal Election

THOMAS SVOB

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 2

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Community services and recreation
04	Cost of living and affordability
05	Environmental sustainability
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Economic development and job creation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Establish a quarterly "Town Hall" series. Bring sound fiscal management to Council. Challenge spending, advocate for transparent financial reviews. Require comparisons of actuals to budgets Advance notice of policy changes / seek community feedback. To have a stronger financial voice to advise the Mayor. Inclusion of more residents in reviews.

PORT COLBORNE

Candidate Responses

← Return to Municipality List

2021 Census Community Profile	
Population (2021)	20.033
Population Growth (2016-2021)	+9.4%
Median Age	50.4 years
Occupied Dwellings	8,710
Land Area	121.99 km^2

Source: Statistics Canada 2021 Census Profile and Focus on Geography Series, 2021 Census.

Mayoral Candidates | 5 Registered | 3 Survey Responses

View Mayoral Responses →

Michael Bunton
Cameron Klemm
Bill Steele
Bea Kenny
Larry Rosnuk

Councillor Candidates | 16 Registered | 11 Survey Responses

View Councillor Responses →

Monique Aquilina (2)
Mark Bagu (1)
Geoffrey Black (1)
Ron Bodner (2)
Mark Brunarski (1)
Gary Bruno (3)
Barbara Butters (2)
Angie Desmarais (1)
Dave Elliott (1)
Amanda Emery (3)
Jennifer Foti (1)
Tim Hoyle (1)
Mark Minor (2)
Adam Robins (3)
Monica Szabo (2)
Brad Wilson (1)

** Numbers in parentheses indicate the ward in which each candidate is running.*

Visit the City's Election Page for Certified Candidate Contact Information.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Port Colborne | 2026 Municipal Election

BEA KENNY

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
03	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Cost of living and affordability
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Infrastructure renewal
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Community services and recreation
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Faster planning approvals
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Transfer to Local Municipality
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Remain with Niagara Region
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Transfer to Local Municipality

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

Use them only as a last resort after attempting to build Council consensus.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Housing and affordability
2	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)
3	Public safety

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

My first priority is the city of Port Colborne & it's citizens. I will work with council & staff to make sure the taxpayers' dollars are used to support existing services and to listen to their co concerns. Every service we presently have needs to be examined to ensure the city's social & economic prosperity.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Port Colborne | 2026 Municipal Election

LARRY ROSNUK

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Environmental sustainability
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
06	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
07	Infrastructure renewal
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Community services and recreation
10	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation whenever possible

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Tourism investment

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Transfer to Local Municipality
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain unchanged
Police and public safety	Remain unchanged
Public health and paramedic services	Remain unchanged
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Remain with Niagara Region
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Remain with Niagara Region

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

Use them only as a last resort after attempting to build Council consensus.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Economic development and business attraction
2	Housing and affordability
3	Other: Health Care

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Health Care :Keeping the present Hospital building for more long term care beds and adding a MRI machine . Bring in more Doctors and health care workers for more after hours care.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Port Colborne | 2026 Municipal Election

BILL STEELE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
05	Environmental sustainability
06	Community services and recreation
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Economic development and job creation
09	Increasing housing supply and attainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Remain unchanged
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain unchanged
Police and public safety	Remain unchanged
Public health and paramedic services	Remain unchanged
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Remain unchanged
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Transfer to Local Municipality

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

Use them only as a last resort after attempting to build Council consensus.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Economic development and business attraction
2	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)
3	Transit and transportation

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

For Port Colborne lowering water and waste water rates is a high priority. Making sure developers don't land bank and move their projects forward when all conditions of approval are met.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

PORT COLBORNE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE COMPARISON

A snapshot of received responses to key questions from the 2026 Niagara Municipal Candidate Survey.

Mayoral Candidate	Top 3 Municipal Priorities	Top 3 Budget Priorities
BEA KENNY	1. Minimal property tax increases 2. Food insecurity & mental health 3. Public safety & emergency serv.	1. Housing & affordability 2. Infrastructure 3. Public safety
LARRY ROSNUK	1. Cost of living & affordability 2. Economic development 3. Environmental sustainability	1. Economic development 2. Housing & affordability 3. Health care
BILL STEELE	1. Cost of living & affordability 2. Infrastructure renewal 3. Minimal property tax increases	1. Economic development 2. Infrastructure 3. Transit & transportation

About this comparison: This snapshot highlights each responding mayoral candidate's three highest-ranked municipal priorities and three selected budget priorities. Complete responses, including positions on housing, taxation, governance and municipal services, are available in the full survey report. The Niagara Business Alliance does not endorse candidates.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Port Colborne | 2026 Municipal Election

MARK BAGU

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Environmental sustainability
05	Economic development and job creation
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Community services and recreation
08	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Transit improvements
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

transparency

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Port Colborne | 2026 Municipal Election

GEOFFREY BLACK

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Community services and recreation
04	Environmental sustainability
05	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
06	Waste collection and disposal
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Infrastructure renewal
09	Increasing housing supply and attainability
10	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Lower municipal taxes and fees

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
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Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

reduce water bills

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Port Colborne | 2026 Municipal Election

RON BODNER

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 2

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Environmental sustainability
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Community services and recreation
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Tourism investment
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Neutral
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Neutral
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Continue what we are doing in our city

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Port Colborne | 2026 Municipal Election

MARK BRUNARSKI

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Increasing housing supply and attainability
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Community services and recreation
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
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Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Make things happen through proper investigation, economic justification and economic follow-up. Keep the residents informed and communicate consistently and frequently. No hidden agendas.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Port Colborne | 2026 Municipal Election

GARY BRUNO

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 3

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Cost of living and affordability
04	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
05	Community services and recreation
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Oppose
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Download with tax points some Regional government services to lower tier municipalities. (Water/Wastewater and roads for starters. Other Regional services could be run by Commissions.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Port Colborne | 2026 Municipal Election

BARBARA BUTTERS

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 2

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Community services and recreation
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Infrastructure renewal
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
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Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Addressing the poverty , food insecurity and housing is critical - when we can include all residents in a decent standard of living we all win - a complex issue

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Port Colborne | 2026 Municipal Election

ANGIE DESMARAIS

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Community services and recreation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Support increases above inflation when necessary to improve services

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Reducing municipal red tape
- Transit improvements
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

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Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Creating a unified regional strategy aligning economic development, infrastructure investment and social well-being across all 12 municipalities would be an action I could strongly support.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Port Colborne | 2026 Municipal Election

DAVE ELLIOTT

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Cost of living and affordability
04	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Community services and recreation
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Support increases above inflation when necessary to improve services

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
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Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

As I am a resident of Port Colborne, I would continue 2 priorities we are already working on: servicing industrial/commercial lands and upgrading infrastructure, and working together to bring to fruition a Health Hub to fill much needed health services in town. This will not replace our UCC that is closing, but will service residents who are not attached to a doctor now.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Port Colborne | 2026 Municipal Election

MARK MINOR

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 2

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Environmental sustainability
05	Economic development and job creation
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Increasing housing supply and attainability
09	Community services and recreation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Tourism investment

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
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Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Brining in new businesses and supporting these new businesses, both large and small. A mix of large business with small businesses that can both thrive with the current population. Add in smart growth and development which will help these local businesses but not burden the current infrastructure.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Port Colborne | 2026 Municipal Election

ADAM ROBINS

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 3

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Cost of living and affordability
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Economic development and job creation
06	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Community services and recreation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Neutral
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

If elected I would do everything in my power to reduce insane devolpment charges and red tape to attract residential devolpment that we desprately need. That's a major reason why houses are so unaffordable for our younger generation

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Port Colborne | 2026 Municipal Election

BRAD WILSON

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Economic development and job creation
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Community services and recreation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing Regional Responsibilities

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

In Port Colborne there are many problems facing us from HealthCare and losing our Urgent Care to affordability. To me it is evident that community involvement needs to be increased to resolve our problems and I will champion listening to the community and getting them involved.

ST. CATHARINES

Candidate Responses

← Return to Municipality List

2021 Census Community Profile	
Population (2021)	136,803
Population Growth (2016-2021)	+2.8%
Median Age	44.8 years
Occupied Dwellings	58,903
Land Area	96.13 km^2

Source: Statistics Canada 2021 Census Profile and Focus on Geography Series, 2021 Census.

Mayoral Candidates | 5 Registered | 4 Survey Responses

View Mayoral Responses →

Anthony A. Adeoye
Henry Bosch
Jimmy Jackson
Mat Siscoe
Ann-Marie Zammit

Councillor Candidates | 31 Registered | 22 Survey Responses

View Councillor Responses →

Jim Adair (S.A.)
Matt Aymar (M)
Spencer Bellows-DeWolfe (G)
Bryan Blue (S.A.)
Mike Britton (S.G.)
Noel Buckley (S.A.)
Adirana Clifford (S.A.)
Geoffrey Crane (M)
Ashlee Davidson-Miller (M)
Dawn Dodge (G)
Matthew Harris (S.A.)
Grant Higginson (S.P.)
Jacqueline Lindal (M)
Noah Machek (S.P.)
Marty Mako (P.D.)
Catherine McNabb (S.A.)
Allen McKay (S.P.)
Robin McPherson (S.P.)
Alexander Miller (S.G.)
Tom Neale (S.A.)
Emmanuel Oneka (G)
Constantina O'Reilly (P.D.)
Bill Phillips (G)
Caleb Ratzlaff (S.P.)
Austin Shynal (S.P.)
Sal Sorrento (S.G.)
Mark Stevens (S.G.)
Dunsin Sunday Fakorede (G)
Kevin Townsend (S.G.)
Kate Werneburg (S.G.)
Bruce Williamson (P.D.)

** Letters in parentheses indicate the ward in which each candidate is running:*

(G) = Grantham
(M) = Merritton
(P.D.) = Port Dalhousie
(S.A.) = St. Andrew's
(S.G..) = St. Georges
(S.P.) = St. Patrick's

Visit the City's Election Page for Certified Candidate Contact Information.

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

ANTHONY ADEOYE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Cost of living and affordability
08	Community services and recreation
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation whenever possible

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Remain unchanged
Economic Development	Remain unchanged
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain unchanged
Police and public safety	Remain unchanged
Public health and paramedic services	Remain unchanged
Roads and transportation	Remain unchanged
Waste collection and diversion	Remain unchanged
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Remain unchanged

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

I would not intend to use these powers except where legally required.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Economic development and business attraction
2	Housing and affordability
3	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion strategic investment in core infrastructure that supports housing, attracts businesses and creates good-paying jobs, while ensuring responsible fiscal management. Strong infrastructure is the foundation of economic growth, affordability and thriving communities, and will position St. Catharines and Niagara for sustainable long-term prosperity.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

JIMMY JACKSON

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
04	Infrastructure renewal
05	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Community services and recreation
09	Increasing housing supply and attainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation whenever possible

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Transfer to Local Municipality
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Police and public safety	Transfer to Local Municipality
Public health and paramedic services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Transfer to Local Municipality
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Transfer to Local Municipality

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

I would not intend to use these powers except where legally required.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Climate resilience and environmental initiatives
2	Economic development and business attraction
3	Housing and affordability

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

My priority would be to diversify and strengthen Niagara's local economy by attracting investment, supporting small businesses, reducing unnecessary municipal red tape, and creating good local jobs. A stronger economy means greater opportunity, improved affordability, sustainable public services, and a better quality of life for every resident.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

MAT SISCOE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
07	Increasing housing supply and attainability
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Community services and recreation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Transfer to Local Municipality
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Transfer to Local Municipality
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Unsure

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

I would not intend to use these powers except where legally required.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Economic development and business attraction
2	Housing and affordability
3	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

A focus on reducing unnecessary red tape and bureaucracy from business development.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

ANN-MARIE ZAMMIT

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Increasing housing supply and attainability
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
05	Cost of living and affordability
06	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
07	Waste collection and disposal
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Community services and recreation
10	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Transit improvements

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Remain unchanged
Economic Development	Remain unchanged
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain unchanged
Police and public safety	Remain unchanged
Public health and paramedic services	Remain unchanged
Roads and transportation	Remain unchanged
Waste collection and diversion	Remain unchanged
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Remain unchanged

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

I would not intend to use these powers except where legally required.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Economic development and business attraction
2	Housing and affordability
3	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Unsure / Need more information

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Updating and maintaining the Region's infrastructure is the key to unlocking economic and social prosperity. Providing a solid foundation that is invested in and responsibly expanded will lead to better outcomes for economic growth and sustainability.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

ST. CATHARINES

MAYORAL CANDIDATE COMPARISON

A snapshot of received responses to key questions from the 2026 Niagara Municipal Candidate Survey.

Mayoral Candidate	Top 3 Municipal Priorities	Top 3 Budget Priorities
ANTHONY ADEOYE	1. Infrastructure renewal 2. Minimal property tax increases 3. Economic development	1. Economic development 2. Housing & affordability 3. Infrastructure
JIMMY JACKSON	1. Cost of living & affordability 2. Economic development 3. Food insecurity & mental health	1. Climate resilience 2. Economic development 3. Housing & affordability
MAT SISCOE	1. Cost of living & affordability 2. Infrastructure renewal 3. Food insecurity & mental health	1. Economic development 2. Housing & affordability 3. Infrastructure
ANN-MARIE ZAMMIT	1. Infrastructure renewal 2. Housing supply & attainability 3. Economic development	1. Economic development 2. Housing & affordability 3. Infrastructure

About this comparison: This snapshot highlights each responding mayoral candidate's three highest-ranked municipal priorities and three selected budget priorities. Complete responses, including positions on housing, taxation, governance and municipal services, are available in the full survey report. The Niagara Business Alliance does not endorse candidates.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

JIM ADAIR

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: St. Andrews (Ward 2)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
05	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Economic development and job creation
08	Community services and recreation
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat oppose

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Transparency and accountability getting the trust of the taxpayers again, making informed and responsible decisions in the best interest of the taxpayers of St. Catharines. We need to be in touch with the people get them involved in town councils so their voice cane be heard not ignored

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

SPENCER BELLOWS-DEWOLFE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Grantham (Ward 5)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Cost of living and affordability
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Waste collection and disposal
08	Community services and recreation
09	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

My priority will be responsible economic growth, attracting investment, supporting local businesses, and creating good paying jobs while protecting taxpayers. Smarter infrastructure planning, stronger partnerships with Niagara's tourism and agriculture sectors and strategic investment in our community.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

BRYAN BLUE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: St. Andrew's (Ward 2)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Economic development and job creation
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
04	Infrastructure renewal
05	Cost of living and affordability
06	Community services and recreation
07	Increasing housing supply and attainability
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion a culture of excellence and continuous improvement in municipal government, making St. Catharines easier to invest in, build in and do business in, while delivering better value for taxpayers. A growing economy creates jobs, expands our tax base and provides the resources needed to build stronger, safer communities.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

MIKE BRITTON

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: St. George's (Ward 3)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
04	Infrastructure renewal
05	Economic development and job creation
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Community services and recreation
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

My top priority will be to get property taxes under control. I'll champion a line-by-line review of City spending to stop runaway spending and eliminate waste, while speeding up approvals and growing our tax base through new housing and business investment so existing taxpayers aren't continually asked to pay more.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

ADRIANA CLIFFORD

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: St. Andrew's (Ward 2)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Economic development and job creation
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Cost of living and affordability
04	Infrastructure renewal
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Community services and recreation
09	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

My top priority will be creating a more affordable and business-friendly Niagara by reducing unnecessary municipal red tape, speeding up approvals, controlling tax and fee increases, and supporting housing and infrastructure investments that attract employers, create good jobs, and strengthen our communities.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

GEOFFREY CRANE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Merritton (Ward 1)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Environmental sustainability
03	Cost of living and affordability
04	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Community services and recreation
07	Economic development and job creation
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Fiscal responsibility is a necessary function of everything we do.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

DUNSIN FAKOREDE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Grantham (Ward 5)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Cost of living and affordability
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Community services and recreation
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion a long-term infrastructure renewal plan that prioritizes roads, sewers, drainage and other essential assets while supporting housing and business growth. Strong infrastructure is the foundation for attracting investment, creating jobs, protecting neighbourhoods and keeping St. Catharines affordable and competitive.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

GRANT HIGGINSON

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: St. Patrick's (Ward 4)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Economic development and job creation
02	Increasing housing supply and attainability
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
07	Cost of living and affordability
08	Community services and recreation
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Faster planning approvals
- Returning vacant and derelict serviced land to productive use. The former GM lands are 50 acres of serviced urban land producing almost no assessment while the City maintains the infrastructure around them.

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Returning vacant, serviced land to productive use. The former GM lands have sat idle 14 years while the City maintains the infrastructure around them. The City issued property standards orders this spring, using authority it has had the entire time. I'll champion consistent enforcement and a clear redevelopment path.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

JACKIE LINDAL

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Merritton (Ward 1)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
03	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
04	Waste collection and disposal
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
08	Increasing housing supply and attainability
09	Community services and recreation
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Transit improvements
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Oppose
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

It will depend on what happens a with the Niagara Region because 2 tier government is currently not working

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

NOAH MACHEK

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: St. Patrick's (Ward 4)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Community services and recreation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Transit improvements

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Ensuring we reduce homelessness and addictions issues across the downtown core, allowing existing small businesses to grow and thrive, while continuing to promote St. Catharines as a hub for tourism and new investments.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

MARTY MAKO

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Port Dalhousie (Ward 6)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
06	Community services and recreation
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
09	Cost of living and affordability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Remediation and redevelopment of brownfield and underutilized employment lands.

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

A stronger assessment base creates jobs and helps fund the social services our community depends on. I will champion economic growth by creating a climate that makes STC easier to invest in, supporting the redevelopment of contaminated brownfields and underutilized lands, ensuring they are supported by appropriate city infrastructure.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

ALLEN MCKAY

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: St. Patrick's (Ward 4)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
07	Community services and recreation
08	Increasing housing supply and attainability
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Reducing municipal red tape
-

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Taxes

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

CATHERINE MCNABB

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: St Andrew's (Ward 2)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Community services and recreation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Review the current economic and social strategic plan, to ensure that the roadmap reflects the public's priorities, is viable and measurable. Align the stakeholders and work towards achieving the goals set out in the plan. It is imperative to know where you want to be in order to achieve the end results.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

ROBIN MCPHERSON

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: St. Patrick's (Ward 4)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Increasing housing supply and attainability
04	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
05	Economic development and job creation
06	Cost of living and affordability
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Community services and recreation
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Support increases above inflation when necessary to improve services

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Faster planning approvals
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will continue championing a new, predictable municipal funding partnership with the provincial and federal governments. As a Federation of Canadian Municipalities Board member, I am already bringing Niagara's infrastructure, housing and service needs directly to federal MPs and decision-makers, helping ensure our local priorities are heard where funding decisions are made.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

ALEXANDER MILLER

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: St. Georges (Ward 3)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Increasing housing supply and attainability
04	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Community services and recreation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Tourism investment

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I want a vacant home tax. These vacant homes drive up housing prices, increase crime, deter economic growth, and make it hard for businesses to be successful.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

TOM NEALE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: St. Andrew's (Ward 2)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Community services and recreation
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Investment in roads and infrastructure

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
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Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion policies that grow and diversify St. Catharines' tax base by creating the conditions for investment, business growth and job creation. That means efficient approvals, responsible infrastructure investment and a competitive business environment—helping reduce pressure on existing taxpayers while sustaining the services and quality of life residents expect.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

CONSTANTINA O'REILLY

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Port Dalhousie (Ward 6)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Economic development and job creation
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Infrastructure renewal
05	Environmental sustainabilit
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting):
07	Community services and recreation
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Increasing housing supply and attainability
10	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- None of the above

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Unsure / Need more information

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Encourage/invite trade and industry to create jobs, offer training to unemployed to become creative in the community. This is to bring sustainability that brings prosperity.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

BILL PHILLIPS

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Grantham (Ward 5)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Community services and recreation
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

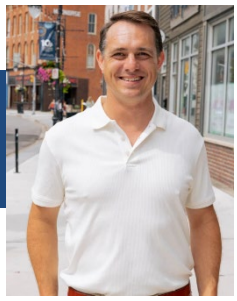
If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will ensure taxes are kept at the rate of inflation or less without having to reduce services to our residents.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election



CALEB RATZLAFF

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: St. Patrick's (Ward 4)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Increasing housing supply and attainability
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Environmental sustainability
06	Community services and recreation
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Faster planning approvals
- Transit improvements

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Neutral
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

My priority is getting more affordable housing built. Housing is economic infrastructure: young people need to afford to stay in Niagara, workers need homes near jobs and transit, and people experiencing homelessness need supportive housing. We can use public land and partnerships to build homes people can afford.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

MARK STEVENS

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: St.George's (Ward 3)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Waste collection and disposal
07	Cost of living and affordability
08	Community services and recreation
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Neutral
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Neutral
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Strongly support

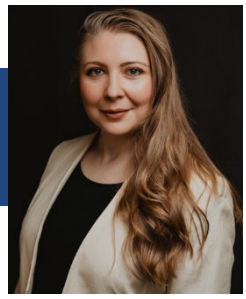
FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

We need infastructure dollars from the Province in order to increase development of business and housing

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election



KATE WERNEBURG

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 3 - St. George's

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Environmental sustainability
03	Increasing housing supply and attainability
04	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
05	Economic development and job creation
06	Infrastructure renewal
07	Community services and recreation
08	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Support increases above inflation when necessary to improve services

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Transit improvements

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Neutral
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
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Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Attainable and Affordable Housing: Policies to support increasing housing supply; encouraging multi-unit housing in established neighbourhoods, supported by appropriate infrastructure; introducing a vacant home tax; introducing an anti-renoviction bylaw, enforcing existing bylaws for short-term rental property owners.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

St. Catharines | 2026 Municipal Election

BRUCE WILLIAMSON

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Port Dalhousie (Ward 6)

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
04	Waste collection and disposal
05	Community services and recreation
06	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Economic development and job creation
09	Increasing housing supply and attainability
10	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Transit improvements
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
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Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

NIAGARA REGION AIRPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts by Niagara Region and its municipal partners to invest in and expand the role of the Niagara Region Airport as a regional economic development and transport asset?

Somewhat support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Investing in our waste water system to prevent more flooding.

THOROLD

Candidate Responses

← Return to Municipality List

2021 Census Community Profile	
Population (2021)	23,816
Population Growth (2016-2021)	+26.7%
Median Age	37.2 years
Occupied Dwellings	9,095
Land Area	83.29 km^2

Source: Statistics Canada 2021 Census Profile and Focus on Geography Series, 2021 Census.

Mayoral Candidates | 2 Registered | 1 Survey Response

View Mayoral Responses →

Henry D'Angela

Tim Whalen

Councillor Candidates | 22 Registered | 15 Survey Responses

View Councillor Responses →

Stephany Brennan
Kieran Daniels
Mike De Divitiis
Nella Dekker
Carmen DeRose
Kamal Fodil
David Handley
Ashraf Hindi
Gurinder Kaur
Asad Mahmood
Chantal McCollum
Brandon Mckenney-Somerville
Tim O'Hare
Titi Oyeleye
Clayton Pye
Chris Richards
Mal Romanin
Ken Sentance
Sarika Sherfudeen
Ken Steeve
James Symons
Rae Whitty

Visit the City's Election Page for Certified Candidate Contact Information.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Thorold | 2026 Municipal Election

HENRY D'ANGELA

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Community services and recreation
05	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Cost of living and affordability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Downtown revitalization
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
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Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Remain with Niagara Region
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Transfer to Local Municipality
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Remain with Niagara Region

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

Use them only in limited circumstances when there is a clear public benefit.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Customer service and digital modernization
2	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)
3	Parks, recreation and community amenities

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

efficient use of taxpayer funds

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

THOROLD

MAYORAL CANDIDATE COMPARISON

A snapshot of received responses to key questions from the 2026 Niagara Municipal Candidate Survey.

Mayoral Candidate	Top 3 Municipal Priorities	Top 3 Budget Priorities
HENRY D'ANGELA	1. Minimal property tax increases 2. Infrastructure renewal 3. Economic development	1. Customer service 2. Infrastructure 3. Parks & recreation

About this comparison: This snapshot highlights each responding mayoral candidate's three highest-ranked municipal priorities and three selected budget priorities. Complete responses, including positions on housing, taxation, governance and municipal services, are available in the full survey report. The Niagara Business Alliance does not endorse candidates.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Thorold | 2026 Municipal Election

KIERAN DANIELS

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Community services and recreation
05	Economic development and job creation
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Increasing housing supply and attainability
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I would champion responsible growth making sure new development is matched with the infrastructure and services it requires. That means efficient approvals, accountable spending, and supporting local businesses and jobs, while making sure existing taxpayers aren't left carrying an unfair share of the cost.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Thorold | 2026 Municipal Election

CARMEN DEROSE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Community services and recreation
06	Infrastructure renewal
07	Increasing housing supply and attainability
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

My priority will be responsible fiscal management—eliminating waste, reducing unnecessary spending and ensuring every taxpayer dollar delivers value. By strengthening accountability, investing in essential infrastructure and supporting local businesses, we can keep taxes affordable, create opportunities, and build a stronger, more prosperous Niagara while protecting the services residents depend on.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Thorold | 2026 Municipal Election

DAVID JIM HANDLEY

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Cost of living and affordability
04	Community services and recreation
05	Economic development and job creation
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Increasing housing supply and attainability
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Neutral
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

If elected this will be my 7th term. I will keep doing as I have for the last 22 years. Raising taxpayers concerns, addressing concerns and suporting my community the best way possible. and as always there when needed, not just during an election year.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Thorold | 2026 Municipal Election

ASHRAF HINDI

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Cost of living and affordability
04	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
05	Economic development and job creation
06	Community services and recreation
07	Increasing housing supply and attainability
08	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion responsible growth that keeps Niagara affordable. That means holding municipal spending accountable, investing in essential infrastructure, reducing unnecessary red tape, and creating an environment where local businesses can grow and create good jobs, while ensuring growth improves the quality of life for the people who call Niagara home.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Thorold | 2026 Municipal Election

GURINDER KAUR

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
04	Community services and recreation
05	Environmental sustainability
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Increasing housing supply and attainability
08	Infrastructure renewal
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Economic development and job creation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approval;
- Pre-zoning land for housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Tourism investment

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion responsible, community-focused growth—attracting businesses and good-paying jobs while ensuring infrastructure, transit, housing, and community services keep pace. Niagara's prosperity depends on supporting local businesses, reducing unnecessary barriers to investment, and building communities where young families, seniors, and future generations can afford to thrive.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Thorold | 2026 Municipal Election

ASAD MAHMOOD

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Community services and recreation
06	Environmental sustainability
07	Infrastructure renewal
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Increasing housing supply and attainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion establishing a permanent, community-led food bank in Thorold so no resident goes to bed hungry. By partnering with local businesses, farmers, charities and volunteers, it will strengthen food security, reduce hardship and keep community resources working locally.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Thorold | 2026 Municipal Election

CHANTAL MCCOLLUM

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
03	Increasing housing supply and attainability
04	Environmental sustainability
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Waste collection and disposal
07	Economic development and job creation
08	Community services and recreation
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Transit improvements
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Oppose
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Affordable housing. People who work in Niagara should be able to afford to live here. Housing affordability is essential to keeping workers and families in our communities and supporting a strong local economy. I am committed to responsible zoning policies and incentives that encourage housing development that is attainable for working families.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Thorold | 2026 Municipal Election

BRANDON MCKENNEY-SOMERVILLE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Increasing housing supply and attainability
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Cost of living and affordability
04	Community services and recreation
05	Waste collection and disposal
06	Infrastructure renewal
07	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Thorold needs a major expansion in their role fighting against slumlords and absentee landlords. They destroy the property values of neighborhoods, and overcharge for rent

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Thorold | 2026 Municipal Election

TITI OYELEYE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
03	Environmental sustainability
04	Cost of living and affordability
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Community services and recreation
07	Infrastructure renewal
08	Increasing housing supply and attainability
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Economic development and job creation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Oppose
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Oppose
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Oppose
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Oppose
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Oppose

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

If elected, I will champion a Community Prosperity and Workforce Initiative connecting residents with local employers, skills training, affordable opportunities, and small-business support. By investing in people, strengthening local businesses, and ensuring newcomers, youth, seniors, and families can participate fully, we can build a more inclusive, resilient, and prosperous Niagara.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Thorold | 2026 Municipal Election

CLAYTON PYE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Community services and recreation
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Waste collection and disposal
08	Economic development and job creation
09	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Tourism investment

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I think for Thorold and the Niagara region as a whole needs to invest more money in law-enforcement. Crime rates are climbing as the population climbs. A lot of candidates talk about responsible growth, but then neglect to address the obvious fact that with more people comes more crime having a police presence in Thorold would significantly decrease vandalism and crime in our area.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Thorold | 2026 Municipal Election

MAL ROMANIN

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Economic development and job creation
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Community services and recreation
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Increasing housing supply and attainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion the expansion and servicing of Thorold's industrial lands while cutting municipal red tape to fast-track development. This will attract jobs, broaden our tax base, and generate revenue needed to fund many other important initiatives for our community

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Thorold | 2026 Municipal Election

SARIKA SHERFUDEEN

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Community services and recreation
03	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
04	Cost of living and affordability
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Increasing housing supply and attainability
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Support increases above inflation when necessary to improve services

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Lower municipal taxes and fees

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

My priority will be to make sure Niagara's growth is matched by the infrastructure and services residents need. I will champion responsible investment in roads, water, emergency services and local businesses, while improving accountability and public consultation so growth creates stronger communities, supports local jobs and delivers value for taxpayers.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Thorold | 2026 Municipal Election

KENNETH STEEVE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Community services and recreation
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I would champion infrastructure first growth plan that connects responsible development with the roads, water, sewers and services needed to support it. By aligning growth with infrastructure capacity, supporting local businesses and good paying jobs, and protecting community quality of life , we can build a stronger, more sustainable Niagara.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Thorold | 2026 Municipal Election

JAMES SYMONS

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Increasing housing supply and attainability
04	Cost of living and affordability
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Community services and recreation
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Pre-zoning land for housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Support increases above inflation when necessary to improve services

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will ask for a spending review of all departments Add additional services were needed and reduce over spending

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Thorold | 2026 Municipal Election

RAE WHITTY

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting):
07	Infrastructure renewal
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Community services and recreation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Faster planning approvals
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

To keep taxes down while trying to boost job growth and less red tape to approvals to achieve these goals.

WAINFLEET

Candidate Responses

← Return to Municipality List

2021 Census Community Profile	
Population (2021)	6,887
Population Growth (2016-2021)	+8.1%
Median Age	47.2 years
Occupied Dwellings	2,615
Land Area	217.53 km^2

Source: Statistics Canada 2021 Census Profile and Focus on Geography Series, 2021 Census.

Mayoral Candidates | 2 Registered | 2 Survey Responses

View Mayoral Responses →

Kevin Gibson

Brian Grant

Councillor Candidates | 10 Registered | 4 Survey Responses

View Councillor Responses →

Rebecca Anderson
Dan Bath
Lee Bott
Terry Gilmore
Joe Gonzalez
John MacLellan
Jeannette Pieterse
Sherri Van Vliet
Paul Wainwright
Scott William Wilson

Visit the Township's Election Page for Certified Candidate Contact Information.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Wainfleet | 2026 Municipal Election

BRIAN GRANT

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Infrastructure renewal
05	Community services and recreation
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Waste collection and disposal
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting):

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Tourism investment

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I wish to champion a fair value for services my community receives. Currently we pay far more for much less service.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Wainfleet | 2026 Municipal Election

KEVIN GIBSON

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Community services and recreation
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Increasing housing supply and attainability
10	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation whenever possible

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Neutral
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Remain unchanged
Economic Development	Transfer to Local Municipality
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Remain unchanged
Waste collection and diversion	Remain unchanged
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Remain unchanged

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

I would not intend to use these powers except where legally required.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Housing and affordability
2	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)
3	—

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

review of Budget expenses to enhance infrastructure improvement by having more funds available.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

WAINFLEET

MAYORAL CANDIDATE COMPARISON

A snapshot of received responses to key questions from the 2026 Niagara Municipal Candidate Survey.

Mayoral Candidate	Top 3 Municipal Priorities	Top 3 Budget Priorities
BRIAN GRANT	1. Minimal property tax increases 2. Cost of living & affordability 3. Economic development	
KEVIN GIBSON	1. Cost of living & affordability 2. Minimal property tax increases 3. Infrastructure renewal	1. Housing & affordability 2. Infrastructure

About this comparison: This snapshot highlights each responding mayoral candidate's three highest-ranked municipal priorities and three selected budget priorities. Complete responses, including positions on housing, taxation, governance and municipal services, are available in the full survey report. The Niagara Business Alliance does not endorse candidates.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Wainfleet | 2026 Municipal Election

LEE BOTT

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Environmental sustainability
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Community services and recreation
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Waste collection and disposal
07	Economic development and job creation
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Infrastructure renewal
10	Increasing housing supply and attainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- None of the above

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Workforce development and skilled trades
-

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Property Taxes and overstaffing in town hall.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Wainfleet | 2026 Municipal Election

TERRY GILMORE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Community services and recreation
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Cost of living and affordability
07	Increasing housing supply and attainability
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Support increases above inflation when necessary to improve services

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Continue to support our agricultural sector and infrastructure improvements.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Wainfleet | 2026 Municipal Election

SHERRI VAN VLIET

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
04	Cost of living and affordability
05	Community services and recreation
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Waste collection and disposal
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Increasing housing supply and attainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Neutral
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

To encourage the responsible growth of Niagara in a way that benefits people that already live here and call it home. Support local businesses and farmers. It's difficult to narrow it down to one thing.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Wainfleet | 2026 Municipal Election

PAUL WAINWRIGHT

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: At-Large Councillor

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
05	Environmental sustainability
06	Community services and recreation
07	Economic development and job creation
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Increasing housing supply and attainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- None of the above

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Neutral
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Affordability is Niagaras biggest issue. There are 4000 plus homes for sale no shortages of homes.

WELLAND

Candidate Responses

← Return to Municipality List

2021 Census Community Profile	
Population (2021)	55,750
Population Growth (2016-2021)	+6.6%
Median Age	45.2 years
Occupied Dwellings	23,656
Land Area	81.16 km^2

Source: Statistics Canada 2021 Census Profile and Focus on Geography Series, 2021 Census.

Mayoral Candidates | 8 Registered | 8 Survey Responses

View Mayoral Responses →

Natashia Bergen
Pat Chiocchio
David Clow
Gary Graziani
April Jeffs
David McLeod
Brandon Simon
Graham Speck

Councillor Candidates | 36 Registered | 18 Survey Responses

View Councillor Responses →

Nick Albano (5)
Aaron Albano (4)
David Alexander (4)
Safdar Ali (4)
Kiron Bondale (1)
John Braimoh (3)
John Chiocchio (3)
Tia DeAgazio (4)
Tony DiMarco (4)
Vince DiMauro (2)
Mark Dzugan (5)
Steve Falusi (6)
Carolyn Fast (2)
Michelle Febers (5)
Bonnie Fokkens (6)
Bryan Green (4)
Jessica LaHay (1)
Jim Larouche (6)
Jamie Lee (6)
Connie McCutcheon (5)
Luca Mele (5)
Adam Moote (1)
Kevin Muller (6)
Aldo Parrotta (2)
Tissa Ratnayake (4)
Claudette Richard (5)
Cheryl Rowe (6)
Josh Sawatsky (1)
Sharmila Setaram (3)
Steve Soos (3)
James Takeo (3)
Brad Ulch (1)
Leo Van Vliet (2)
Sean Vout (6)
Steve Yochim (2)
Terry Zorgel (4)

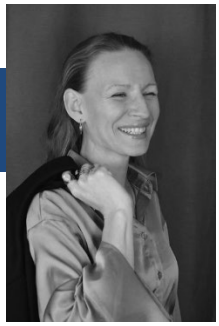
** Numbers in parentheses indicate the ward in which each candidate is running.*

Visit the City's Election Page for Certified Candidate Contact Information.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election



NATASHIA BERGEN

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Increasing housing supply and attainability
02	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
03	Cost of living and affordability
04	Environmental sustainability
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Infrastructure renewal
08	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
09	Community services and recreation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation whenever possible

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Downtown revitalization
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Transit improvements

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Transfer to Local Municipality
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Transfer to Local Municipality
Public health and paramedic services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Roads and transportation	Remain unchanged
Waste collection and diversion	Transfer to Local Municipality
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Transfer to Local Municipality

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

I would not intend to use these powers except where legally required.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Economic development and business attraction
2	Housing and affordability
3	Public safety

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will review the existing zoning of industrial lands to confirm we have enough shovel ready projects to grow industrial job base. Look at the Community Improvement Plan, financial incentives, high-density proposals etc. to ensure our initiatives align with the needs of the community.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

PAT CHIOCCHIO

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
04	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Increasing housing supply and attainability
09	Community services and recreation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation whenever possible

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Investment in roads and infrastructure

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Transfer to Local Municipality
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Remain with Niagara Region
Waste collection and diversion	Remain with Niagara Region
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Remain with Niagara Region

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

Use them only as a last resort after attempting to build Council consensus.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Economic development and business attraction
2	Housing and affordability
3	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion responsible growth that strengthens Welland's economy without leaving tax payers behind, I want to attract new businesses and good paying jobs, and ensure growth supports the infrastructure, public safety are community needs.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

DAVID CLOW

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Infrastructure renewal
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Community services and recreation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation whenever possible

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Downtown revitalization
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
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Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Transfer to Local Municipality
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Police and public safety	Transfer to Local Municipality
Public health and paramedic services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Transfer to Local Municipality
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Transfer to Local Municipality

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

Use them only in limited circumstances when there is a clear public benefit.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Economic development and business attraction
2	Housing and affordability
3	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Ending the lawlessness on our streets will raise property value, lead to lower taxes, keep families safe, attract investors, and keep our residents from moving to more lucrative places with higher levels of wellbeing, while allowing for a downtown rejuvenation. A safe, welcoming downtown will benefit the entire city.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

GARY GRAZIANI

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
07	Community services and recreation
08	Economic development and job creation
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Downtown revitalization
- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Transfer to Local Municipality
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Transfer to Local Municipality
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Transfer to Local Municipality

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

I would not intend to use these powers except where legally required.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Customer service and digital modernization
2	Housing and affordability
3	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

My priority as Mayor is to Lead, and Coordinate with the other Niagara municipalities to discuss structure and process for these items. Using unity and togetherness will bring us to champion these actions in our first term of office. Providing Practical Leadership as Mayor, we will create a positive working relationship with others and a teamwork atmosphere.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

APRIL JEFFS

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Cost of living and affordability
08	Community services and recreation
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation whenever possible

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Downtown revitalization
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
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Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Remain with Niagara Region
Economic Development	Transfer to Local Municipality
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
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Waste collection and diversion	Remain with Niagara Region
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Remain with Niagara Region

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

Use them only in limited circumstances when there is a clear public benefit.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Economic development and business attraction
2	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)
3	Public safety

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Welland Downtown Revitilization with a goal to significantly grow the commercial tax base across the city of Welland by removing barriers for existing businesses to expand while attracting new business opportunities.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

DAVID MCLEOD

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Infrastructure renewal
05	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
06	Cost of living and affordability
07	Increasing housing supply and attainability
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Community services and recreation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Pre-zoning land for housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Support increases above inflation when necessary to improve services

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Expanded industrial land development
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

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Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Remain unchanged
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Remain with Niagara Region
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Remain with Niagara Region

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

Use them only as a last resort after attempting to build Council consensus.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Economic development and business attraction
2	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)
3	Public safety

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Maximum team effort. That is the my commitment. We will always attempt to work in partnership first. Engaging constituents, council, staff, community partners, businesses, area municipalities and the region in order to achieve maximum results for Welland and Niagara. A win for Niagara is a win for Welland and vice-versa.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

BRANDON SIMON

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Economic development and job creation
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting):
06	Cost of living and affordability
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Community services and recreation
09	Increasing housing supply and attainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Digital permitting and online approvals:

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Faster planning approvals
- Transit improvements

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
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Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

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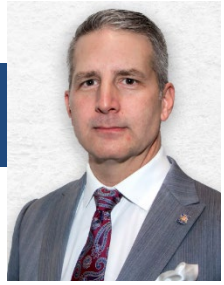
MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election



GRAHAM SPECK

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Infrastructure renewal
05	Community services and recreation
06	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
09	Increasing housing supply and attainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
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Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Remain unchanged
Economic Development	Remain with Niagara Region
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Remain with Niagara Region
Waste collection and diversion	Remain with Niagara Region
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Remain with Niagara Region

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

Use them only as a last resort after attempting to build Council consensus.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Customer service and digital modernization
2	Economic development and business attraction
3	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Regional efficiency has historically been choked by duplication, high taxes, and slow approval processes. We need to streamline both city and regional departments to have clearly defined and separate roles and responsibilities. The Niagara peninsula needs to become more competitive for high-paying jobs and major commercial investments.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

WELLAND

MAYORAL CANDIDATE COMPARISON

A snapshot of received responses to key questions from the 2026 Niagara Municipal Candidate Survey.

Mayoral Candidate	Top 3 Municipal Priorities	Top 3 Budget Priorities
NATASHA BERGEN	1. Housing supply & attainability 2. Food insecurity & mental health 3. Cost of living & affordability	1. Economic development 2. Housing & affordability 3. Public safety
PAT CHIOCCHIO	1. Cost of living & affordability 2. Minimal property tax increases 3. Public safety & emergency serv.	1. Economic development 2. Housing & affordability 3. Infrastructure
DAVID CLOW	1. Cost of living & affordability 2. Food insecurity & mental health 3. Economic development	1. Economic development 2. Housing & affordability 3. Infrastructure
GARY GRAZIANI	1. Cost of living & affordability 2. Minimal property tax increases 3. Infrastructure renewal	1. Customer service 2. Housing & affordability 3. Infrastructure
APRIL JEFFS	1. Food insecurity & mental health 2. Minimal property tax increases 3. Infrastructure renewal	1. Economic development 2. Infrastructure 3. Public safety
DAVID MCLEOD	1. Minimal property tax increases 2. Public safety & emergency serv. 3. Economic development	1. Economic development 2. Infrastructure 3. Public safety
BRANDON SIMON	1. Economic development 2. Minimal property tax increases 3. Infrastructure renewal	
GRAHAM SPECK	1. Cost of living & affordability 2. Economic development 3. Minimal property tax increases	1. Economic development 2. Housing & affordabilit 3. Infrastructure

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

AARON ALBANO

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 5

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
03	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
04	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Community services and recreation
07	Economic development and job creation
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Increasing housing supply and attainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I propose a flatlining of property taxes for a full municipal term, no increases whatsoever for the duration of four years.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

DAVID ALEXANDER

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 4

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Community services and recreation
05	Environmental sustainability
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Increasing housing supply and attainability
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Workforce development and skilled trades
- Promote entrepreneurship via a venture capital fund and business growth summits

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

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Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Start/grow a 'buy local, shop local' initiative and network to support local jobs, employers, workers, farmers, shops, ideas, products, services, and ventures. Ensure the mentoring, talent, ven cap, incubation, stakeholders, advertising, and recognition is in place.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

KIRON BONDALE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Increasing housing supply and attainability
02	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Cost of living and affordability
09	Community services and recreation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Support increases above inflation when necessary to improve services

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

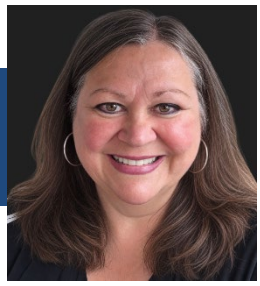
If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Look for opportunities to cut down on bureaucratic red tape and to reduce overall "waste" in the system

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election



TIA DEAGAZIO

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 4

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
03	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
04	Infrastructure renewal
05	Environmental sustainability
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Community services and recreation
09	Economic development and job creation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Responsible development and infrastructure, including commitment to public services like safe clean drinking water, healthcare and housing.

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

VINCE DIMAURO

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 2

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Cost of living and affordability
05	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
06	Community services and recreation
07	Infrastructure renewal
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Increasing housing supply and attainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Support increases above inflation when necessary to improve services

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Expanded industrial land development
- Transit improvements

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Neutral
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Safe communities for residents through stronger policing and by-law enforcement

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

CAROLYN FAST

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 2

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Environmental sustainability
02	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
03	Community services and recreation
04	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
05	Cost of living and affordability
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Economic development and job creation
08	Infrastructure renewal
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Downtown revitalization
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Tourism investment

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Welland is changing and growing and with that comes opportunity and the need for careful long term planning. Responsible growth and strong infrastructure is a priority that I feel is important in order to meet the needs of people now and in the future in tandem with the changing environment.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

MICHELLE FEBERS

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 5

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
08	Community services and recreation
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- None of the above

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

If elected, I will champion responsible growth that makes Welland a stronger place to live work and do business. I will support investment and local businesses while ensuring our roads, infrastructure and emergency services keep pace. Growth should strengthen our tax base create jobs and improve residents quality of life not increase their burden.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

JESSICA LAHAY

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Cost of living and affordability
04	Environmental sustainability
05	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
06	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
07	Increasing housing supply and attainability
08	Economic development and job creation
09	Community services and recreation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I will champion smart, balanced community growth: strictly protecting our vital agricultural land and green spaces from unchecked sprawl, while accelerating attainable infill housing within existing serviced areas through transparent, modern permitting and disciplined infrastructure investment.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

CONNIE MCCUTCHEON

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 5

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Environmental sustainability
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
07	Infrastructure renewal
08	Economic development and job creation
09	Community services and recreation
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Faster planning approvals
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I support setting clear performance measures and KPIs so Council and residents can see what is working, where improvements are needed, and whether City services are delivering results.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

LUCA MELE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 5

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Waste collection and disposal
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Infrastructure renewal
09	Community services and recreation
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- None of the above

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Neutral
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Small Businesses. The mom and pop shops. The new entrepreneurs, the students, more support, tax breaks, grace periods, and compensation for the roads being shut down for 18 months, outdated polices that create a ghost town shutting every small business down, new and old.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

KEVIN MULLER

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 6

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
06	Community services and recreation
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Infrastructure renewal
09	Increasing housing supply and attainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- None of the above

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Neutral
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Oppose
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Bring more industry to support are growth and lower or freeze taxes and other bills to help residents live.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

ALDO PARROTTA

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 2

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Environmental sustainability
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Community services and recreation
07	Cost of living and affordability
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Increasing housing supply and attainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

If elected, the single most important action I will champion is making sure growth pays for the infrastructure it creates. Niagara needs growth. We need new housing, new businesses, new investment and new jobs. But growth only strengthens a community when the infrastructure is there to support it. Too often, municipalities are left trying to catch up after development has already happened.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

TISSA RATNAYAKE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 4

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Cost of living and affordability
04	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
05	Environmental sustainability
06	Community services and recreation
07	Infrastructure renewal
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Increasing housing supply and attainability
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Tourism investment

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Niagara is one of Ontario's important economic and tourism regions, and Niagara Falls is one of Canada's most recognized tourist destinations. However, I believe the region has significant untapped potential to attract more visitors, investment and year-round economic activity. We need better regional planning and infrastructure to turn tourism into greater economic opportunities for communities across Niagara, including Welland.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

JOSH SAWATSKY

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
03	Increasing housing supply and attainability
04	Infrastructure renewal
05	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
06	Economic development and job creation
07	Community services and recreation
08	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Environmental sustainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Transit improvements
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Neutral
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Immediate work on the homeless and drug situation with emphasis on helping people who are still in their homes. This problem can become much worse! WE have thousands of people living on the edge of being unhoused...

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

JAMES TAKEO

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 3

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
02	Infrastructure renewal
03	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Cost of living and affordability
06	Environmental sustainability
07	Community services and recreation
08	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Increasing housing supply and attainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

A complete vision, plan and task force to address the future of downtown Welland

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

LEO S VAN VLIET

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 2

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
03	Increasing housing supply and attainability
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Environmental sustainability
06	Community services and recreation
07	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
08	Infrastructure renewal
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Strongly Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Neutral
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Working with other levels of Government to reduce duplication of services.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

SEAN VOUT

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 6

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Cost of living and affordability
04	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Waste collection and disposal
07	Community services and recreation
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
10	Increasing housing supply and attainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Building more housing in existing communities

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I intend to work hard forming partnerships with municipal and provincial officials to get a large scale addictions treatment facility in Welland. This will create jobs and social prosperity for the entire city. It will also work towards creating a better environment to attract new businesses.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

Welland | 2026 Municipal Election

STEVE YOCHIM

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 2

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
03	Increasing housing supply and attainability
04	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
05	Economic development and job creation
06	Community services and recreation
07	Environmental sustainability
08	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
09	Infrastructure renewal
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Expanded industrial land development
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Financial Transparency from the City to the public

WEST LINCOLN

Candidate Responses

← Return to Municipality List

2021 Census Community Profile	
Population (2021)	15.454
Population Growth (2016-2021)	+6.6%
Median Age	40.8 years
Occupied Dwellings	5,295
Land Area	387.02 km^2

Source: Statistics Canada 2021 Census Profile and Focus on Geography Series, 2021 Census.

Mayoral Candidates | 1 Acclaimed | 1 Survey Response

View Mayoral Responses →

Cheryl Gannan

Councillor Candidates | 11 Registered | 6 Survey Responses

View Councillor Responses →

Marlene Bergsma (2)
Danny Bilan (1)
Joann Chechalk (2)
Edward Dunn (2)
Paul Griffin (1)
Gord Maccharles (2)
Greg Maychak (3)
William Reilly (3)
Erin Schutten (2)
Jason Trombetta (1)
Albert Witteveen (1)

** Numbers in parentheses indicate the ward in which each candidate is running.*

Visit the Township's Election Page for Certified Candidate Contact Information.

MAYORAL CANDIDATE RESPONSE

West Lincoln | 2026 Municipal Election

CHERYL GANANN

MAYORAL CANDIDATE

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Infrastructure renewal
02	Increasing housing supply and attainability
03	Economic development and job creation
04	Environmental sustainability
05	Cost of living and affordability
06	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
07	Community services and recreation
08	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
09	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
10	Waste collection and disposal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's three selected priorities

- Downtown revitalization
- Investment in roads and infrastructure
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Neutral
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

Regional and Local Service Responsibilities

Corporate planning services	Transfer to Local Municipality
Economic Development	Transfer to Local Municipality
Housing, homelessness, and social services	Remain with Niagara Region
Police and public safety	Remain with Niagara Region
Public health and paramedic services	Remain with Niagara Region
Roads and transportation	Transfer to Local Municipality
Waste collection and diversion	Remain with Niagara Region
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Remain with Niagara Region

Strong Mayor Powers

If elected, how would you approach the use of Strong Mayor Powers in your municipality and with the Region?

Use them only as a last resort after attempting to build Council consensus.

HIGHEST BUDGET PRIORITIES

Candidate's three selected budget priorities

1	Customer service and digital modernization
2	Housing and affordability
3	Infrastructure (roads, bridges, water and wastewater)

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Acclaimed

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

WEST LINCOLN

MAYORAL CANDIDATE COMPARISON

A snapshot of received responses to key questions from the 2026 Niagara Municipal Candidate Survey.

Mayoral Candidate	Top 3 Municipal Priorities	Top 3 Budget Priorities
CHERYL GANANN	1. Infrastructure renewal 2. Housing supply & attainability 3. Economic development	1. Economic development 2. Infrastructure 3. Public safety
TOM INSINNA		

About this comparison: This snapshot highlights the responding mayoral candidate's three highest-ranked municipal priorities and three selected budget priorities. Complete responses, including positions on housing, taxation, governance and municipal services, are available in the full survey report. The Niagara Business Alliance does not endorse candidates.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

West Lincoln | 2026 Municipal Election

MARLENE BERGSMA

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 2

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Community services and recreation
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Environmental sustainability
04	Increasing housing supply and attainability
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
07	Cost of living and affordability
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
10	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Delegating more routine approvals to staff;
- Digital permitting and online approvals;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Standardized application requirements;
- Supporting staff recommendations for more housing

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Transit improvements
- Tourism investment

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Oppose
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Neutral
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

West Lincoln is poised to grow dramatically, but growth must be in keeping with the existing community's character and have the necessary infrastructure and services to serve development and the new residents well.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

West Lincoln | 2026 Municipal Election

JOANN CHECHALK

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 2

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
05	Increasing housing supply and attainability
06	Environmental sustainability
07	Community services and recreation
08	Economic development and job creation
09	Waste collection and disposal
10	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Approval timelines with performance targets;
- Building more housing in existing communities;
- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Investment in roads and infrastructure

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Neutral
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

I would like to hold developers and builders to account to make sure the federal, provincial and municipal concessions afforded them to deliver new "affordable units" is passed on the buyer.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

West Lincoln | 2026 Municipal Election

PAUL GRIFFIN

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Cost of living and affordability
03	Waste collection and disposal
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Increasing housing supply and attainability
07	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
08	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Community services and recreation

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Pre-zoning land for housing;
- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Faster planning approvals
- Reducing municipal red tape

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Neutral
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

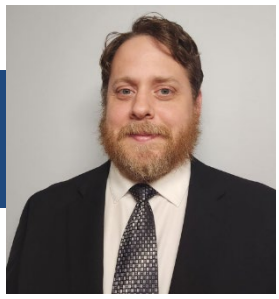
If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Accoutability. We hire staff and consultants for their expertise, but that doesn't mean we should not question them, their opinions, or their decisions. It's too easy to defer to the 'experts', but the Council is accountable to the people that voted for them, not the people we are paying.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

West Lincoln | 2026 Municipal Election



GORD MACCHARLES

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 2

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
04	Environmental sustainability
05	Infrastructure renewal
06	Cost of living and affordability
07	Community services and recreation
08	Waste collection and disposal
09	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
10	Increasing housing supply and attainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Neutral

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- None of the above

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Expanded industrial land development
- Workforce development and skilled trades

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Strongly Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Neutral

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

West Lincoln deserves an economy that creates opportunity without losing the character that makes our community home. I'll support responsible growth that keeps our community affordable, connected, and prosperous, while protecting our farmland, rural way of life, and small-town character. We can grow without sacrificing what makes West Lincoln special.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

West Lincoln | 2026 Municipal Election

ERIN SCHUTTEN

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 2

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
03	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
04	Economic development and job creation
05	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
06	Waste collection and disposal
07	Community services and recreation
08	Increasing housing supply and attainability
09	Environmental sustainability
10	Infrastructure renewal

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Agree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Keep annual tax increases below inflation

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Downtown revitalization
- Faster planning approvals
- Lower municipal taxes and fees

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Neutral
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Neutral
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

Well planned growth and responsible spending.

NIAGARA BUSINESS ALLIANCE

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE RESPONSE

West Lincoln | 2026 Municipal Election

ALBERT WITTEVEEN

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE
WARD / CANDIDACY: Ward 1

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

What should be the highest priority for your municipality over the next four years? Ranked in order of importance.

01	Cost of living and affordability
02	Economic development and job creation
03	Infrastructure renewal
04	Community services and recreation
05	Public safety & emergency services (e.g. police, firefighting)
06	Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services
07	Waste collection and disposal
08	Environmental sustainability
09	Keeping property tax increases as low as possible
10	Increasing housing supply and attainability

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT

Municipal development charges and other growth-related fees should be reduced to encourage the construction of more attainable ownership and rental housing.

Disagree

To address Niagara's housing shortage, which of the following measures would you support in your municipality?

- Reducing unnecessary studies and reports;
- Standardized application requirements

APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAXES

Which statement best reflects your approach to property taxes?

Support increases above inflation when necessary to improve services

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT AND CREATING JOBS

Candidate's selected priorities (up to three)

- Expanded industrial land development
- Lower municipal taxes and fees
- Investment in roads and infrastructure

GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES

Improving Municipal Efficiency, Accountability, and Service Delivery

Municipal councils should complete a comprehensive service and spending review during each term of council and publicly report on the savings achieved managing costs, maintaining service levels, and responding to changing community needs.	Support
Municipal property tax increases above the rate of inflation should require a public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should work together to expand shared services and joint procurement where it can reduce costs without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support
Municipal governments should establish measurable service standards and publicly report performance for planning approvals, permitting, and other key municipal services.	Strongly Support
Municipalities should adopt modern digital services that allow residents and businesses to apply for permits, licenses, and approvals through a single online portal.	Strongly Support

FIRST-TERM MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

If elected, what is the single most important action you will champion during your first term in office to ensure Niagara's economic and social prosperity?

to attract industry and business to create a diversified mix to weather different environments such as trade and local consumption procurement

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Niagara Business Alliance extends its appreciation to all candidates who participated in this initiative and took the time to share their perspectives with Niagara voters.

The Alliance also acknowledges the assistance provided by municipal Clerk's Offices throughout Niagara Region, whose cooperation supported candidate outreach efforts and contributed to the successful administration of this survey.

The Alliance also recognizes REALNorth Strategies, whose coordination and administrative support, working alongside the Niagara Business Alliance, contributed significantly to the successful delivery of this regional initiative.

Most importantly, we thank Niagara residents for engaging in the democratic process and taking an active interest in the future of their communities.

Niagara Business Alliance Member Organizations

- Niagara Association of REALTORS®
- Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce
- Grimsby and District Chamber of Commerce
- Lincoln Chamber of Commerce
- Niagara Construction Association
- Niagara Home Builders' Association
- Niagara Industrial Association
- Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce
- South Niagara Chambers of Commerce:
    - Greater Fort Erie Chamber of Commerce
    - Niagara Falls Chamber of Commerce
    - Port Colborne-Wainfleet Chamber of Commerce
    - Welland/Pelham Chamber of Commerce
- West Lincoln Chamber of Commerce

Together, these organizations represent thousands of businesses, professionals, employers, employees, entrepreneurs, home builders, and REALTORS® committed to building a stronger, more competitive, and more prosperous Niagara.