

2SLGBTQIA+ Questionnaire for Waterloo Region Municipal Candidates

Name: Bill Conway

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Do you identify as a member of a 2SLGBTQIA+ community?

No

What role are you running for?

Cambridge City Council Ward 6

What do you believe are the most critical issues for the local 2SLGBTQIA+ community? If elected, how would you work with the local community to address these issues?

I believe that all in our community must feel safe and welcomed and that they know and feel that they belong. If elected I would ask for input from the 2SLGBTQIA+ community to share their lived experience with me so I can be a voice and support and be an advocate in my work as a city councillor

Have you ever participated in 2SLGBTQIA+ Cultural Competency Training?

Yes

Systemic homophobia, biphobia, and transphobia are still prevalent in our community, resulting in significant socioeconomic disparities within 2SLGBTQIA+ communities. If elected, how will you combat homophobia, biphobia, and transphobia?

I believe that education and conversation is essential in combatting homophobia, biphobia and transphobia exists and work to breakdown and eliminate these systemic impacts on the 2SLGBTQIA+ community

If elected, how would you address the ongoing issues of homelessness and mental health, especially as they disproportionately affect members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community?

I would work to seek input from the 2SLGBTQIA+ community to get input on identifying the gaps and shortcoming of the current systems and the specific challenges they face, with the understanding that one solution does not fit all, and changes and modifications are needed to meet their needs.

Do you agree with the statement that "trans rights are human rights, and must be protected as such?"

Absolutely

What is one motion would you bring to council that you think will improve the lives of specifically queer people, racialized individuals and/or marginalized residents and why?

I would be in support of having an advisory committee to council that would provide their lived experience when accessing city services for the purpose of addressing, improving and implementing their concerns to break down barriers and improve lives

When thinking about our schools, do you agree that 2SLGBTQIA+ representation in books and lessons is critical at all grade levels? How would you support 2SLGBTQIA+ students in schools?

I believe that all students need to see themselves in the books and lessons from K-12