

2SLGBTQIA+ Questionnaire for Waterloo Region Municipal Candidates



Name: Brooklin Wallis

Email Address: brooklin@votebrooklin.ca

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

Yes

What role are you running for?

City Councillor, Kitchener Ward 9

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?

The rise of far-right hate groups is increasingly concerning. I think public education campaigns are needed; working with local queer and Indigiqueer groups to introduce this topics to older folk will be a major way to ensure our culture doesn't backslide. Kids know this stuff now, thanks to advancements in school curriculum, but older people only see what extremists say about us.

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

No, but I'd love to!

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?

Like I said above, I think a public education/experience program would really help give people experience with queer folk. I think people actually MEETING the Queer folk that live around them would really help humanize and begin the process of proper acceptance.

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 with the region to fast-track enough Better-Tent-City-inspired hybrid encampments to make sure people are warm over the winter, and have a place to call their own. I think that a 2SLGBTQIA+ specific community shelter would also a be great way to to help offset the disproportions.

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

Of course!

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?

Absolutely, and I would advocate for them whenever I get a chance to! I'd love to be able to appear at events and talk to students to show that it's possible.