

## 2SLGBTQIA+ Questionnaire for Waterloo Region Municipal Candidates

**Name:** Courtney Waterfall

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

No

**What role are you running for?**

WRDSB Trustee

**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?**

Safety, inclusion, and representation. I want to make sure voices are heard and we are really listening to the experiences and ideas from 2SLGBTQIA+ community members and organizations.

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

I have attended different trainings over the past several years related to learning, inclusion, safety, and experiences of 2SLGBTQIA+ community members facilitated by both local organizations, as well as organizations across the province.

**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 my earlier answer, we need to include the voices of our 2SLGBTQIA+ community members and organizations to make a real impact. I am committed to working with our under-represented and most vulnerable community members and groups to ensure their voices are heard.

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

Awareness, helping reduce the stigma around homelessness and mental health, and ensuring we are meeting the needs of our students, their families, and staff.

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

Yes

**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 think improving the lives of queer, racialized, and/or marginalized individuals needs to be taken into consideration with every motion that is brought to the table.

**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?**

Yes! Ensuring representation in the classrooms, in the schools, and in the conversations. Ensuring they have an opportunity to be heard.