

## 2SLGBTQIA+ Questionnaire for Waterloo Region Municipal Candidates

**Name:** Maedith Radlein

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

No

**What role are you running for?**

School Board Trustee - WRDSB

**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?**

Respect and acceptance as contributing and valued residents of this community. I will continue to advocate for these issues as a member of the WRDSB's Equity & Inclusion Advisory Group; a member of the Inclusive Ministries' Committee at Parkminster United Church; an activist & advocate in the Lived Experience Working Group; a supporter of SPECTRUM & its work; engage with groups that represent 2SLGBTQIA+ parents; advocate for and support GSAs in schools; advocate for and support school libraries that honour all students for who they are; openly state and name my support for 2SLGBTQIA+ issues.

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

No

**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?**

As mentioned in a previous answer I will be working in the school system. I will continue the work I started in 2006 when I chaired the committee which developed & implemented the WRDSB's first Equity Policy.

**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 am a member of the Lived Experience Housing group chaired by David Alton which actively addresses these issues.

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

Yes, I do.

**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?**

N/A

**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 I agree books are critical at all grade levels & will continue the support I already give. As chair of the Positive Schools' Coalition ( a group of staff, community members & organizations including ACCKWA & OK2BMe) that developed and implemented the WRDSB's first Equity Policy, I was also part of supporting the start-up of GSAs in secondary & senior elementary schools.