

# CANDIDATES HIGHLIGHT TOP ISSUES AFFECTING COMMUNITY

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term of council. I would continue working toward that vision, as we move forward. I believe my experience will be an asset in working toward that end.

## KIM ROY

The first thing to get straight is the definition: What do we mean by affordable housing? If we mean housing whose total cost does not exceed 30 per month of a monthly salary, how do we go about controlling that? The answer varies whether you are dealing with young professionals, seniors, people with disabilities, single parents, families, or homeless.

Complexity like this requires creative thinking to deliver the progress that the community needs. We need to work with the town to understand how we could leverage unused lands and buildings available for housing. I would examine unconventional solutions that take advantage of already existing infrastructure, so that we can act sooner to assist our residents.

One idea is HomeShare: co-living within current resident homes in our community for those willing to help or looking for support themselves.

I've been talking with many, and several are doing this already. I would say that the municipality holds the key for the simple reason that it bridges the gap between the developers and those who need the housing, determines the citizens at need, the housing resources available, and facilitates matchups. The municipality acts as the centre of communication for the entire commu-



nity.

## ANN LAWLOR

The top Issue in the next term of council will be managing growth and maintaining the small town feel that is so important to us. Since the province has determined that Halton Hills will grow, a new neighbourhood is being planned and new homes will be built in southwest Georgetown, beginning in about 2021. By 2031, the scope will be similar to that of south Georgetown.

Council is aware of the importance of our small town character, and ensured that the vision for the new neighbourhood complements that style. It will have several schools, commercial areas, parks, a library/community centre and a mix of housing. The dominant housing will be single family. A central core and walkable, tree-lined streets will contribute to a traditional town atmosphere.

Phased construction will occur so the impact of new building will be restricted to certain areas and away from established neighbourhoods. Phasing will ensure that new residents have timely access to community amenities such as schools, parks and shopping close to home.

Growth will require better transportation. Roadways such as Trafalgar are expanding to make travel easier in and out of town. We continue to advocate for two way all day GO ser-

vice.

## RON NORRIS

When meeting with people, in my ward, the primary concern has been traffic. Speed and flow. Speed: It is well subscribed that one cannot legislate common sense. On quiet residential streets, impatient driving, combined with distracted pedestrians is a tragedy waiting to happen. I would bring together council, concerned residents and Halton Regional Police to determine the most effective ways to create road calm. North American studies suggest that there are creative solutions, but they do require co-operation from all. Flow: As weekday traffic on Highway 401 continues to be bogged down, vehicles, including trucks, are increasingly using Highway 7 through Acton and Georgetown as an east-west alternative. Initially, we have to address and re-route the large trucks that are turning at the four corners of Acton and in the village of Norval. Truck bypass would have been a spinoff of the cancelled GTA West Corridor 400 series Highway, but the long-term opportunities for a bypass still exist. It will take time, but "A journey of a 1000 miles begins with a single step."

## ABE VERGHIS

Our youth are our future, and I fear that substance abuse and mental health problems are plaguing our youth especially within our high schools. With legalization weeks away, this issue will be further exacerbated by its availability through legal channels. My call to action is to urgently further enhance our current recreational activities such as

basketball, tennis and indoor soccer and to have them affordable. The essence of this strategy is to promote constructive use of their time and to acknowledge successes and abilities, while at the same time creating drug abuse awareness.

## D'ARCY KEENE

The biggest problem facing Georgetown this election is some of the people currently on council that want to change our town into a large, sprawling suburb like Brampton or Mississauga. The worst example of this misguided, busybody thinking, is the current sneaky attempts to bring in a bus system. This must be stopped at all costs. No one in Georgetown is asking for a bus system. My strategy is to elect people to town council who will fight to preserve the great quality of life we have here today.

Ward three and four regional council

## JANE FOGAL

The top issue identified by residents while I have been door-knocking is speeding on residential streets.

People want to see a physical change in the road, such as speed bumps or stop signs. The Town has a protocol in place to determine if traffic-calming measures are warranted, and if so what measures are recommended.

The issue of speeding is common across all municipalities and it is having an effect on the safety and enjoyment of our neighbourhoods.

There is a lack of civility and care as people rush through someone else's neighbourhood to get to school or work or home.

One strategy to address

speeding is to work through the schools. Many of our biggest problems are near schools. I think we should put together a program aimed at changing attitudes and behaviours to make people more aware of the side effects of their speeding habits. We should work with the school trustees to design a messaging program and tie it in with their program to get students walking and biking to school. There could also be public partnerships leveraged to reach a larger population. Simple things such as Facebook groups could be recruited to help reinforce the message.

## JOHN COOKE

An efficient transportation system and an adequate supply of decent affordable housing, coupled with diverse job opportunities, comprise the three legs of the foundation upon which rests the future prosperity of our town. There are a number of town initiatives and projects currently underway to address these issues: The Intensification Opportunities Study to identify where more residential building can occur within our existing urban boundaries; the Transit Strategy to respond to current needs and future growth; Vision Georgetown regarding the development of the 1,000-acre parcel of land to be home to 19,000 residents. All of this encompassed within the town's strategic plan. Tackling this issue will require keeping an open mind to emerging technologies and new approaches.

## MARK LOCKWOOD

### MAYOR, RICK BONNETTE

There are several key issues affecting residents. They can vary from family

to family, based on particular circumstances. However, I believe the top issue is ensuring that we maintain and continue to raise our high quality of life.

We need to continue to make Halton Hills as affordable as possible, while providing services our residents want and need. We have done this with the new skateboard park, three new ice pads, trails playgrounds and more. Part of my strategy to maintain Halton Hills' high quality of life is to invest in services that engage and support youth. Halton Hills is open for business. My strategy is to continue to implement economic development and have our economy as diversified as possible.

## REGIONAL CHAIR, GARY CARR

The top issue is what chair has the strong experienced leadership with the proven track record to lead Halton Region and keep Halton Region the best.

Since I have been elected chair, Halton has the best record in all of Canada for keeping taxes low. Since 2007 Halton's yearly tax increase have averaged 0.5 per cent.

In addition, Halton Region is one of the safest communities in Canada. All of us at Halton Region are proud of the efforts we have made to keep Halton residents safe, including the launch of our award-winning Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, which addresses key issues that impact our community.

We will continue to work closely with police and community partners to ensure Halton remains a safe community now and in the future.

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