



# Vote For a Sustainable Peterborough

Candidate Name: Diane Therrien

Running for: Mayor

<p>Please tell us what policies you would support that address the goal of Ensuring Sustainable Economic Policies.</p>	<p>Peterborough’s debt has increased by 50% in the past 8 years, as a city we have nearly reached our allowable debt limit, and the city has an annual infrastructure funding shortfall of \$14 million.</p> <p>As Peterborough grows and develops, we will need to build new infrastructure and upgrade our existing infrastructure. Maintaining infrastructure, in particular roads, is among the highest expenses for a municipality. That’s why my policy platform prioritizes improvements to existing infrastructure and diversifying transportation options, instead of building very costly new infrastructure to support low-density developments.</p> <p>As outlined in my policy platform, I recognize the importance of following proper planning processes - like updating our Official Plan and completing secondary plans - to better manage costs, support continued ownership of profitable and essential City-owned assets like our water works system, and prioritizing infrastructure that brings tangible social and economic benefits..</p>
<p>Please tell us what policies you would support that address the goal of Ensuring Sustainable Cultural Policies.</p>	<p>Peterborough’s rich arts and culture are an incredible asset to our city and our economy, and it is essential that city policies and Council provide leadership, support, and funding toward this.</p> <p>My policy platform commits to adopting a “Public Works as Public Art” policy to support local artists and the cultural economy with funds already committed to public works projects. Through this policy, financial contributions would be secured during the development application process or during the process of approving minor variances of subdivisions, and would result in more funding provided directly to local artists to produce public art as part of new developments. This policy is identified as Action 5.2.3 in Peterborough's 2012 Cultural Master Plan, and it was recommended it be adopted in the city by 2015.</p> <p>My policy platform also commits to: Update the Central Area Master Plan to create a vision and foundation for thriving local businesses, arts and culture, housing and livability; and to prioritize infrastructure projects that will support local businesses and economic growth</p> <p>As well, my policy platform commits to provide grants for neighbourhood-led beautification and small-scale infrastructure improvements across the city.</p>



# Vote For a Sustainable Peterborough

<p>Please tell us what policies you would support that address the goal of Ensuring Sustainable Social Policies.</p>	<p>During my time as a councillor, and before that working with the Peterborough Poverty Reduction Network, I have consistently advocated for increased funding and resources to support front-line workers and community organizations that provide urgent social services. Addressing poverty and a lack of safe, affordable housing are fundamental to ensuring a strong and sustainable social fabric in our community. Among its cohort, Peterborough consistently has Canada's highest percentage of residents in Core Housing Need at 20.7% and since 2014, the the city has experienced a 10% increase in Emergency Shelter Usage. Our city has the resources, the know-how, and can develop the partnerships to respond to this urgent need. That's why my policy platform prioritizes housing affordability and enhancing resources for the housing stability fund and the rent supplement program. As mayor, I will take leadership in building the partnerships necessary to secure federal support for developing new housing with affordable rents. As well, the City must use the tools it has to encourage a mix of housing, not just low-density suburban houses that will be snatched up by people moving to Peterborough and drive up prices even more.</p> <p>In terms of drug use, as a City, we need to support our entire community and especially those who are most vulnerable. Peterborough is already a regional hub for social services, and for this reason I believe we need to have a comprehensive detox facility and wrap-around services for those struggling with addictions of all kinds, and I will continue to advocate for financial support from all levels of government to help us deal with these challenges. As well, my policy platform includes a commitment to provide funding over four years to the One City Initiative and continue to support innovative and collaborative solutions to homelessness and marginalization.</p>
<p>Please tell us what policies you would support that address the goal of Ensuring Sustainable Environmental Policies.</p>	<p>I strongly support preserving and enhancing Peterborough's incredible natural heritage and the valuable green spaces in our community, and I have consistently voted this way over the past four years at Council. Peterborough's local environment is at the heart of what so many people love most about living here, and I believe we have a responsibility to ensure it is preserved for future generations. The city and council have a significant role to play by ensuring sustainable environmental policies are incorporated into the new official plan and inform all aspects of city development, like our transportation and infrastructure design. Protecting our local environment is one of the core themes of my policy platform, and includes the following concrete actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Establish an Environmental Advisory Committee to get input and oversight from knowledgeable citizens</li> </ul>



# Vote For a Sustainable Peterborough

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Broaden and streamline the Flood Reduction Subsidy Program to reach more residents and small businesses to better protect their properties from extreme weather</li> <li>● Initiate an Urban Greenbelt Project to enhance neighbourhood trail connections and healthy biodiversity</li> <li>● Establish a green bin program to divert up to 20% of household waste and extend the life of our near-capacity landfill</li> </ul>
<p>Please tell us what policies you would support that would increase transparency of government, democratic decision making, and citizen engagement.</p>	<p>After four years on Council, I have seen that we need more collaborative, forward-thinking leadership in the Mayor’s office. We need a Mayor who understands the day-to-day challenges of Peterborough residents, who commits to being available and accessible to all, and who is able to work collaboratively with partners at all levels to ensure a healthier, more vibrant future for Peterborough. Transparency and public engagement at City Hall is another of my core policy themes and includes the following commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● As Mayor, host regular neighbourhood drop-ins &amp; social media forums</li> <li>● Establish a Code of Conduct for Council to improve accountability and increase public trust</li> <li>● Create a Community Engagement Charter to better involve residents in the decisions that affect them</li> <li>● Pursue use of a ranked ballot for the 2022 municipal election</li> <li>● Adopt a “Public Works as Public Art” policy to support local artists and the cultural economy with funds already committed to public works projects</li> <li>● Provide grants for neighbourhood-led beautification and small-scale infrastructure improvements across the city</li> </ul>