



Vote For a Sustainable Peterborough

Candidate Name: Jim Russell

Running for: Ward 3 - Town

<p>Please tell us what policies you would support that address the goal of Ensuring Sustainable Economic Policies.</p>	<p>First, I would like to acknowledge that much of my thinking is greatly influenced by those with greater expertise, and knowledge, than my own. In particular, the work of Sustainable Peterborough in fostering a vision and enlightening the public on the need to have environmental issues top of mind, especially for elected officials. In regard to economic policies, I would support the intensification of our central core. I recognize and support all efforts to ensure that our City leads by example in reducing our own carbon footprint. Our development needs to be up, not out, with a focus on greater density. I also support the idea of tax relief to developers who meet net zero emissions building practices.</p>
<p>Please tell us what policies you would support that address the goal of Ensuring Sustainable Cultural Policies.</p>	<p>More investment in arts and heritage will enhance and deepen connections between citizens. Additionally, the City must be on a journey of truth and reconciliation with First Nations and Indigenous communities. A land recognition at the beginning of every council meeting would be a small gesture of recognition we should adopt, but also more substantive engagement at the local level is crucial.</p>
<p>Please tell us what policies you would support that address the goal of Ensuring Sustainable Social Policies.</p>	<p>Promote only using vendors who provide a living wage to employees. Our current living wage in Peterborough is estimated to \$17.65/hour. Eliminate homelessness- through increased rent subsidies and lobbying the federal government to accelerate it national housing strategy. Lobby the province to reinstitute the basic income guarantee study. Prioritize and advocate for robust local food production and buying. Ensure any new housing development is mixed income and incent developers to meet a minimum proportion standard.</p>
<p>Please tell us what policies you would support that address the goal of Ensuring Sustainable Environmental Policies.</p>	<p>Greatly increase funding for public transportation. Accelerate the building of bike paths and sidewalks. Preserve and protect natural areas.</p>



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<p>Please tell us what policies you would support that would increase transparency of government, democratic decision making, and citizen engagement.</p>	<p>Assign budget dollars specifically for the promotion and development of resident associations. Convene a review of all City committees with a goal of identifying decision points that could be made by citizens. For example, could the arts and heritage committee be charged with developing the granting process and have final authority over those decisions? Start each year with an open council meeting that is a form of strategic planning that develops an agenda of policy development for the coming year. Most importantly, tether to a newly created Official Plan.</p>
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