



Vote For a Sustainable Peterborough

Candidate Name: Kemi Akapo

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>Peterborough was and is known as the Electric City. The city that first had street lights as well as a streetcars going down its main streets. We were ahead of our time then, but have some catching up to do and some looking ahead to become leaders again.</p> <p>We need policies that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Entice employers in the environmental sector to start up or relocate to Peterborough to conduct business; this could be in form of tax incentives. ● Ensure that any new buildings constructed are done according to the latest standards that adhere to sustainable building practices. ● Provide incentives to retrofit and revitalize old spaces (as seen at the Mount and Knox) to address current needs, such as housing. ● Ensure that our current infrastructure, such as roads and water mains, is maintained. ● Plan for the future. The work of updating the Official Plan needs to be completed.
<p>Please tell us what policies you would support that address the goal of Ensuring Sustainable Cultural Policies.</p>	<p>Arts, culture and heritage preservation is what brings colour to a city. A fantastic example of this is Artsweek, a week-long event which celebrates arts of all kind through the city, but focused on the downtown.</p> <p>There is no shortage of art in Peterborough and we must continue to do what we can to support it so it can grow and thrive.</p> <p>We need policies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ensure our downtown continues to be a place that local businesses, artists and people can call home and thrive. ● Our Central Area Master Plan, while good, needs to be updated. ● Continue to foster and develop stronger and better relationships with our First Nations, Metis and Indigenous communities here in Peterborough/Nogojiwanong. The work towards reconciliation has begun, but it needs to continue. A land recognition at the start of every Council meeting would be a small first step towards this. ● Strive to better create an environment which is friendly and welcoming to newcomers.



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<p>Please tell us what policies you would support that address the goal of Ensuring Sustainable Social Policies.</p>	<p>Peterborough has its share of social difficulties, including poverty, lack of housing, addiction, and food insecurity.</p> <p>We need policies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue to provide funding to organizations providing essential frontline services, such as Social Services, the One City project, and the Warming Room but also work to address the root causes of homelessness. ● Help address the local housing shortage and work towards preventing it in the future - such as incentives for developers to build affordable and rent geared to income housing. ● Continue funding for the Housing Supplement Fund ● Encourage a local food economy, by encouraging food literacy and community gardens. <p>I supported the Basic Income Guarantee pilot and while that has been cancelled, it is important that we continue to advocate with the provincial government to continue to provide supports for our most vulnerable.</p>
<p>Please tell us what policies you would support that address the goal of Ensuring Sustainable Environmental Policies.</p>	<p>Climate Change is real and we must do our part in addressing it.</p> <p>In addition to what has been stated above, we must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Create an environmental advisory committee to advise City Council ● Protect and maintain our natural heritage and green spaces ● Ensure any future development must have the least amount of negative impact on the built environment ● Support and expand active transportation options for cyclists, transit users, and pedestrians. ● Increase funding for public transportation. ● Explore composting options within the city
<p>Please tell us what policies you would support that would increase transparency of government, democratic decision making, and citizen engagement.</p>	<p>As a councillor, it's important to ensure the lines of communication are open between residents and the councilor and residents feel heard and their voices respected. The following are some of examples on how we can encourage democracy in our city. We must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ensure that Council has a code of Conduct and abides by it ● Change the format of Council Meetings so residents can ask questions ● Continue to host regular coffee and conversations in the community so residents can communicate in person. ● Encourage resident participation, such as Participatory Budgeting.