

Candidate Questionnaire

2026 Municipal Election • Working People. Strong Communities.

Your voice. Our community. Stronger together.

Thank you for running to serve the people of Sarnia. The Sarnia & District Labour Council represents thousands of working people across our community. Your responses will help our Executive Committee review candidates and make endorsement recommendations to our members and affiliates. Please answer each question in the space provided; feel free to attach additional pages if you need more room.

Please return your completed questionnaire within 2 weeks of receiving it to Candace Young at candace.d.parsons@gmail.com, or by mail to 1086 Modeland Rd, Suite 249, Sarnia, ON N7S 6L2. This form is fillable — you may type your answers directly, save, and email it back.

ID CANDIDATE IDENTIFICATION

Candidate name:	Adam Kilner
Office sought:	City/County Councillor
Ward (if any):	
Email:	kilnerad@yahoo.com
Phone:	5193282389
Past elected office:	City Councillor
Date:	September 6, 2026
In 75 words or fewer, tell us why you are running:	

New vision for Sarnia.

Decorum. Decency. Our local economy.

Business opportunity is built on consistency and certainty both within the community and at City Hall.

A LABOUR & DECENT WORK

1. Do you support keeping municipal services public and in-house rather than contracting them out or entering public-private partnerships? Identify any services you would protect or consider contracting out, and explain your reasoning.

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

Please explain:

I'm generally of the mindset that our municipal employees are pretty good at what they do. Their expertise supports our municipality in so many ways. We have arborists, by-law officers, engineers, etc. that all work to keep work focused. In most cases these workers are unionized. I support that because unions, from what I understand, typically increase wages and supports for workers in and out of unions in areas where unions are present. We always want workers to be adequately compensated.

2. How will you ensure municipal jobs — and jobs funded by the municipality — remain stable, fairly paid, and unionized? Include your position on temporary/contract labour and subcontracting.

I support local unionized jobs first. In any instance where non-unionized work is needed it should be looked at through a microscope. We don't want to undermine good-paying work.

3. Will you support Community Benefits Agreements, fair-wage schedules, and local-hiring requirements on major municipal infrastructure and construction projects?

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **Undecided**

Please explain:

4. Do you support a living-wage policy covering all municipal workers, contractors, and subcontractors, tied to the City's procurement policies?

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **Undecided**

Please explain:

5. Sarnia's economy depends on turnaround and maintenance work in Chemical Valley. How will you use municipal levers (procurement, permitting, training partnerships with local contractors) to prioritize local, unionized skilled-trades labour?

On smaller contracts it is likely possible to put forward environmental footprint expectations, favouring local businesses and contractors, and also requiring vendors to be close by for emergency repairs or maintenance. Beyond smaller contracts it is more difficult as we are guided by international and interprovincial agreements.

6. Will you commit to meeting regularly with the Sarnia & District Labour Council and its affiliates, and to consulting workers before decisions that affect them, if elected?

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **Undecided**

Please explain:

Anytime I have been asked to meet I have agreed in the past.

7. Lambton County's By-Name List identifies roughly 390 people experiencing homelessness in Sarnia-Lambton, including about 190 who are chronically homeless. What concrete actions will you take on homelessness and supportive housing?

I have been working with local clergy and with local volunteers over the past 4-5 years exactly on this issue. In the case of the church it has been about how folks in the church use their closing properties to support development for more affordable forms of housing. With local non-religious groups the conversation has been on how to work with the people of Sarnia to use infill to create more, and cheaper, new housing.

I plan on continuing this work regardless of the election.

8. A County report warned that prematurely closing the Out of the Cold overflow shelter could more than double the unsheltered population. Do you support maintaining overflow and low-barrier shelter options while permanent supportive housing is built?

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **Undecided**

Please explain:

Exposure to the elements likely causes a peripheral effect - increases in need at the ER (emergency room). People don't always understand that ongoing exposure to the sun in the summer and the cold in the winter leads to unhealthy outcomes for individuals.

9. Will you support zoning and parking reforms that make supportive and affordable housing easier to approve — rather than changes that stall projects like Indwell's proposed 353 George Street development in Mitton Village?

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **Undecided**

Please explain:

I have been in support of these reforms this past term.

10. With more than 900 households on the social-housing waitlist and demand for roughly 2,500 additional affordable units, how will you increase the supply of affordable and non-market housing?

By continuing to advocate.

I think it is likely time for Sarnia to distinguish affordable and supportive housing as a core part of city infrastructure. This could likely help municipal councillors feel empowered to support housing. It seems to be a critical part of success in places like St. Thomas, London, and Hamilton.

11. Do you support a humane, housing-focused Encampment Response Protocol that connects people to services and housing rather than relying primarily on displacement or policing?

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **Undecided**

Please explain:

We're all more likely to be living on the streets than to be a billionaire. So yes, I want people connected to services. I hope others would do the same for me.

12. Major industrial investment (such as the proposed Northern Shield Energy Corridor pipeline) may add capacity while creating relatively few permanent jobs. How will you ensure new industrial investment translates into good, lasting local jobs?

Community benefits agreements (CBAs) tend to create binding contracts that ensure direct social benefit to the local community. This is certainly worth exploring as it would prioritize local jobs and apprenticeships, seek out local procurement, etc. At the end of the day, exploring this avenue would allow us in Sarnia to look at the bigger picture large projects and also seek out local benefit.

13. The closure of INEOS Styrolution affects local workers. What role should the City play in supporting displaced workers and ensuring a fair transition and retraining?

This is a difficult question.

I have begun discussing the expansion of food hubs - places where the basic staples - rice, beans, corn, poultry - could be sold at a 15-30% discount in places like downtown, Mitton Village, etc. This would essentially become the space between a food bank and the market.

14. How will you attract and retain diversified jobs, commerce, and investment beyond petrochemicals — for example downtown, the port and waterfront, clean technology, and small business?

Deploying CIPs (Community Improvement Plans) to expand financial incentive tools. Grants, tax-increment equivalents - to encourage private-sector investment for storefronts in Mitton Village and downtown, structural renovations, etc.

The Waterfront Master Plan can become a huge public-private partnership that generates economic and tourism activity, dining, hospitality, recreation, all while being deeply connected to downtown.

15. Will you support apprenticeships, Red Seal skilled-trades training, and youth and local hiring through municipal projects and procurement — and if so, how?

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

Please explain:

16. How will you support revitalization of downtown Sarnia and Mitton Village and strengthen local small businesses?

I have met with business owners to discuss this in the past few months, and over the course of this municipal term.

Great ideas have been put forth from key businesses in the downtown and Mitton Village areas. These groups tend to be quite self-reliant, and only seek out support from the City over permitting and technical issues that

17. Aamjiwnaang First Nation and nearby Sarnia neighbourhoods face benzene and cumulative air-pollution exposure. What actions within municipal jurisdiction will you take to protect residents' health?

I am always prepared to introduce motions supporting Aamjiwnaang's leadership requesting stricter provincial enforcement, to continue formal correspondence with the Province regarding the issue, and to continue to support the work of our local UNDRIP committee on their proposals.

I have a sibling born at Aamjiwnaang. I have 5 Indigenous siblings. I truly wish there were more mechanisms to address these concerns.

18. Will you advocate to provincial and federal governments for cumulative-effects air-pollution assessment and stronger monitoring and enforcement in Chemical Valley?

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

Please explain:

19. What specific actions will you take to implement and accelerate Sarnia's climate and emissions-reduction plans?

I will want to support local industries transitioning to sustainable forms of energy - hydrogen, bio-fuels. This would position Sarnia as a hub for sustainable energy.

The city needs to lead by example - transforming our vehicle fleet toward electrification is an example - specifically busses.

20. How will you protect and expand access to affordable public transit and safe active transportation?

Seeking out ways to redesign routes prioritizing directness - linking high-frequency corridors with commercial hubs, educational hubs, community hubs.

Operating hours are possibly a consideration.

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GOVERNANCE, SERVICES & RECONCILIATION

21. Which public services (water and wastewater, waste, transit, libraries, recreation, emergency services) do you believe must always remain publicly delivered, and how will you strengthen them?

All of them.

I have supported the Bright's Grove Library project as well as the BACE project. They are both slightly different hub models, with both private and public support for them.

22. How will you advance meaningful reconciliation with Aamjiwnaang First Nation and the broader Indigenous community at the municipal level?

As a person who grew up in a family of 13 - with 5 Indigenous siblings - I am always reminded that "these people" are my family, my friends, my community, my heartbeat.

I continue - in my private life, and in my public life - to officiate the Indigenous Veterans' Day ceremony at Aamjiwnaang, officiate weddings and funerals for residents at Aamjiwnaang, Kettle & Stony Point, and Walpole

23. How will you ensure transparency, accessibility, and meaningful public engagement in municipal decision-making — and how will residents know whether you are delivering on your commitments?

By being available to discuss. My phone number is available to the public. I tend to go to as many public meetings (that are not City Council meetings) as possible. I go to as many public events as possible. People can email.

Every vote I make at City Hall is public. That's an accountability.

24. What is one decision you would make that may be unpopular in the short term but necessary for the long-term well-being of working people in Sarnia?

Affordable housing. It has been clearly demonstrated in a number of countries around the world to be cheaper to house people than leave them on the streets. People living in exposure to the elements are far more likely to access the emergency room. We can aid our own public health challenges by housing people.

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ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire and for your commitment to building a stronger community for working people in Sarnia.