

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:	Briana Reid
Office sought:	
Ward (if any):	
Email:	brianareidforcouncil@gmail.com
Phone:	(226)886-6782
Past elected office:	
Date:	
In 75 words or fewer, tell us why you are running:	

My decision to run in 2022 was driven by a desire to become more involved in our community and to help make a positive difference. Through that experience, I met many wonderful people and learned a great deal about the issues and opportunities facing Sarnia. I still believe I have much to offer, and I am excited about the possibility of serving the residents of Sarnia and working collaboratively to build an even stronger community.

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:

Municipal services should remain public when they are essential to public safety, accountability, and reliable service delivery. Core services such as water, transit, emergency services, and public health must stay in public hands. Non-core services may be considered for contracting out only when there is clear evidence of better value, maintained service quality, and strong public oversight.

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 believe the best way to ensure municipal jobs remain stable, fairly paid, and unionized is by fostering economic growth and attracting more businesses to Sarnia. A stronger local economy creates more opportunities for residents and strengthens our workforce.

When the municipality invests in projects and services, I support prioritizing local companies, local suppliers, and local workers, including unionized labor, whenever possible. Keeping municipal dollars in our community helps

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:

When Sarnia invests in infrastructure, those projects should benefit our community by creating good-paying jobs, supporting local businesses, and providing opportunities for local workers and skilled trades. Fair wages help attract and retain a strong workforce, while local hiring helps keep taxpayer dollars in our community. My goal is to ensure municipal projects deliver value for residents while strengthening Sarnia's economy and workforce.

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:

A well-paid workforce strengthens our entire community. When workers earn a living wage, they are more likely to live, shop, and invest locally, which supports local businesses and contributes to economic growth. A living wage also helps attract and retain skilled employees, reduces turnover, and promotes a stable, productive workforce.

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?

Through municipal procurement policies, I would support giving preference to qualified local contractors and local unionized labour wherever legally and practically possible. The City can also work to streamline permitting processes so that projects move forward efficiently while maintaining safety and quality standards. I strongly support partnerships between the municipality, local contractors, unions, colleges, and training organizations to promote apprenticeships, skills development, and workforce readiness. Investing in training today

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:

I believe that the more informed I am, the better prepared I will be to make thoughtful decisions and cast responsible votes at Council. Workers are often the people most directly affected by municipal policies, and their perspectives are valuable when considering decisions that impact jobs, workplaces, and our local economy.

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?

Sarina-Lambton does not currently have enough affordable housing or shelter space to meet the growing need. Stable housing is the foundation for addressing many other challenges, including mental health, employment, personal safety, and overall well-being. Having a place to call home is not just a housing issue, it is a matter of dignity and basic human rights.

With both the federal and provincial governments placing renewed emphasis on housing development, I believe

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:

As I mentioned, Sarina-Lambton does not currently have enough affordable housing or shelter space to meet the needs of everyone experiencing homelessness. While I believe our long-term focus must be on creating more affordable and supportive housing, we cannot ignore the immediate needs of people who require a safe place to stay today

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:

Yes, I support zoning and parking reforms that make it easier to approve supportive and affordable housing projects.

If we are serious about addressing homelessness and the housing shortage in Sarina-Lambton, we need to stop putting unnecessary barriers in the way of housing solutions. The City has a responsibility to create an

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?

Increasing the supply of affordable and non-market housing must be a priority. With more than 900 households on the wait list, we need to act with urgency and creativity.

One of my key priorities would be identifying existing vacant or underutilized properties that can be converted into affordable or supportive housing more quickly and cost-effectively than building from scratch. We should be actively looking for opportunities to repurpose buildings and make better use of existing infrastructure.

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:

I support a humane, housing-focused approach to encampments.

Simply moving people from one location to another does not solve homelessness. Our focus should be on connecting people with housing, mental health and addiction support, and community services that can help them achieve long-term stability.

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?

I welcome new industrial investment, but success should be measured not only by the size of the investment, but by the benefits it brings to local workers and families.

Major projects must create opportunities for Sarnia residents through local hiring, apprenticeship programs, skilled trades training, and the use of local contractors and suppliers whenever possible. I would support working with industry, unions, educational institutions, and workforce development organizations to ensure local workers

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?

The closure of INEOS Styrolution is a difficult situation for the workers and families affected, and the City should play an active role in supporting them.

I would work with Lambton College, local unions, workforce development agencies, and employers to connect displaced workers with available jobs and retraining opportunities. I would also advocate for provincial and federal

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?

Sarnia has a strong industrial foundation, but we need to continue diversifying our economy to create long-term stability and opportunity.

I would focus on attracting investment by supporting small businesses, reducing unnecessary red tape, and promoting Sarnia as a great place to live, work, and invest. We should capitalize on the potential of our downtown waterfront, and port to attract new businesses, tourism, and economic activity.

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:

Yes, I support using municipal projects to create opportunities for apprentices, Red Seal tradespeople, and local workers.

I would support local hiring and apprenticeship requirements in major municipal contracts wherever possible and encourage partnerships with Lambton College, unions, and local contractors to help young people enter the skilled

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

Revitalizing downtown Sarnia and Mitton Village means supporting local businesses, attracting investment, and creating vibrant places where people want to live, work, and spend time.

I would support reducing unnecessary red tape, updating roads and infrastructure, improving public spaces, and promoting local businesses whenever possible. Well-maintained roads, sidewalks, and streetscapes make these

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ENVIRONMENT & PUBLIC HEALTH

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?

Protecting residents' health must be a priority. While the City does not regulate industrial emissions, we can be a strong advocate for our community.

I support enhanced air-quality monitoring, greater transparency and public reporting, and ongoing collaboration with Aamjiwnaang First Nation, residents, industry, and provincial regulators. People deserve timely information and a voice in decisions that affect their health and quality of life.

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:

Yes, I will advocate for cumulative-effects air-pollution assessments, stronger monitoring, and effective enforcement in Chemical Valley.

Residents deserve to understand the combined impact of emissions on their health and quality of life. I will support working with the Aamjiwnaang First Nation, local residents, industry, and senior levels of government to

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

I support practical climate actions that reduce emissions while strengthening our community and economy.

My focus would be on improving the energy efficiency of municipal buildings, investing in active transportation and public transit, and supporting clean technology and innovation. These are practical steps that can lower emissions, reduce costs, and improve quality of life.

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

Affordable public transit is essential for many residents, especially those on fixed or limited incomes.

I support maintaining affordable transit and would like to explore an income-based bus pass program for residents receiving ODSP, similar to the support currently available through Ontario Works. I also support investing in safe sidewalks, trails, cycling infrastructure, and well-maintained roads so people have reliable

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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?

I believe core services such as water and wastewater, transit, libraries, recreation, waste services, and emergency services are essential and must remain publicly accountable.

My focus would be on maintaining strong service levels, investing in infrastructure, supporting our frontline workers, and ensuring residents receive good value for their tax dollars.

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

Reconciliation requires action, not just words. I will work to strengthen partnerships with Aamjiwnaang First Nation, support Indigenous cultural and educational initiatives, advance the Calls to Action that fall within municipal responsibilities, and ensure Indigenous perspectives are included in planning, environmental, and community development decisions.

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?

I believe good leadership starts with listening. I will be accessible to residents by email, phone, and in person, and I am committed to responding to concerns in a timely manner.

While we may not always agree, I will always listen with an open mind, communicate openly, and keep residents informed about the decisions that affect our community. Accountability, accessibility, and respect will guide how I

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?

One decision that may be unpopular in the short term but necessary for the long-term well-being of Sarnia residents is supporting investments that improve quality of life, even when they come with additional costs.

This includes supporting more affordable and supportive housing and ensuring we have the infrastructure and

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ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Thank you for the opportunity to answer these thoughtful questions. They helped me reflect on the challenges and opportunities facing our community and further clarify my positions on many important issues.

This process reinforced my commitment to listening to residents, working collaboratively, and making decisions that are practical, transparent, and community focused. I am grateful for the opportunity to share my views and

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