

# 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](mailto: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:                                    | <input type="text" value="Carrie McEachran"/>         |
| Office sought:                                     | <input type="text" value="Mayor - City of Sarnia"/>   |
| Ward (if any):                                     | <input type="text"/>                                  |
| Email:                                             | <input type="text" value="carrie@carrieformayor.ca"/> |
| Phone:                                             | <input type="text" value="5193329684"/>               |
| Past elected office:                               | <input type="text"/>                                  |
| Date:                                              | <input type="text" value="August 21, 2026"/>          |
| In 75 words or fewer, tell us why you are running: |                                                       |

I am running because Sarnia needs collaborative, accountable leadership that can bring people together and turn good ideas into results. Our city has tremendous strengths, skilled workers, strong industries, local businesses and caring neighbourhoods, but we are not reaching our full potential. I want to protect what works, address the challenges holding us back and build a more affordable, inclusive and prosperous Sarnia where people can find good jobs, raise their families and build a future.

## 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:*

Core municipal services should remain publicly accountable and publicly delivered wherever that provides residents with the best combination of reliability, quality, safety and value. This is particularly important for water and wastewater, emergency services, public works and other essential infrastructure.

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.

The City should be a responsible employer that provides stable, fairly paid employment, respects collective bargaining and maintains safe workplaces.

Temporary or contract labour should be used only where operationally appropriate, such as for seasonal, short-term or specialized work, and not as a routine replacement for permanent employees.

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:*

I support using Community Benefits Agreements and fair-wage provisions on major municipal infrastructure and construction projects where they are appropriate to the size and nature of the project. I will also support legally permissible measures that create opportunities for local workers, apprentices and businesses.

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:*

I support the City adopting a living-wage policy and examining how living-wage standards can be appropriately incorporated into municipal procurement and service contracts. People performing work on behalf of the City should be fairly compensated, and the City should lead by example as a responsible employer and purchaser of services.

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?

Sarnia's unionized skilled trades are essential to our industrial economy, and I support creating more opportunities for local workers and apprentices.

For City-funded projects, I will support procurement practices that recognize workforce development, apprenticeship opportunities, fair labour standards and community economic benefits, within the City's legal

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 absolutely will meet regularly with the Sarnia & District Labour Council and its affiliates and maintain an open, constructive relationship with organized labour.

I am also committed to consulting workers and their representatives early in the decision-making process when

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?

Homelessness is a humanitarian crisis that requires coordinated action. Lambton County is responsible for housing and homelessness services, but the City of Sarnia must be an active and constructive partner.

As Mayor, I will establish a Housing and Homelessness Action Group with the County, health-care providers, Indigenous partners, non-profit organizations, business and industry, and other key service partners. Its purpose

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:

I support maintaining sufficient emergency and overflow shelter capacity while permanent supportive housing is developed. Closing emergency spaces before workable alternatives exist risks moving people into parks, streets and other unsafe locations rather than resolving homelessness.

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 support removing unnecessary zoning and parking barriers that make appropriate supportive and affordable housing more difficult or expensive to build. Applications should be evaluated promptly and consistently using clear planning, safety and servicing criteria.

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?

The City cannot solve the housing shortage alone, but it can make it easier to build the housing Sarnia needs. I will support:

- Updating zoning to permit a greater range of housing types.
- Identifying surplus or underused public land suitable for housing.
- Removing unnecessary municipal barriers and ensuring requirements are identified clearly and early, so

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 Encampment Response Protocol that provides a clear and timely process for preventing, responding to and, where necessary, safely dismantling encampments.

The City should work with Lambton County, outreach workers, health-care providers and emergency services to

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?

Industrial investment must create more than short-term construction activity and additional capacity. The City should seek clear information about permanent employment, local procurement, required skills, environmental effects, municipal infrastructure needs and opportunities for downstream investment.

For projects such as the proposed Northern Shield Energy Corridor, I would bring together labour, local industry,

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 City should work with Lambton County, Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership, unions, employers, training providers and senior governments to coordinate support for displaced workers.

That includes connecting workers to employment opportunities, recognizing transferable skills, identifying targeted retraining and advocating for government transition assistance. The City should also help position the

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 must continue supporting the Industrial Valley and its skilled workforce while expanding into industries that build on our existing strengths. I will focus on:

- Working closely with the Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership and giving Sarnia's Economic Development Department the mandate and autonomy to actively identify, pursue and attract new investment opportunities.

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:

I support apprenticeships, Red Seal skilled-trades training and opportunities for young and local workers.

For major municipal projects, the City can include workforce-development expectations in procurement, ask bidders to identify apprenticeship opportunities and report on the results. The City should work with unions,

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

Downtown and Mitton Village need more than occasional events and beautification projects. Each requires a focused revitalization plan developed with its businesses, property owners and residents.

One of my first priorities after joining the Chamber was establishing the Downtown Collective. I brought downtown businesses and stakeholders together around common goals, and the Collective continues to thrive

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 public health and supporting a strong industrial economy must go hand in hand. Workers, residents and Aamjiwnaang First Nation deserve reliable air-quality information, effective incident communication and confidence that established environmental standards are being met.

As Mayor, I will bring together Aamjiwnaang leadership, labour, industry, public-health officials and provincial

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:

I support evidence-based assessment of cumulative environmental effects, transparent monitoring and consistent enforcement of established standards. Residents and workers experience the combined effects of industrial activity, and Aamjiwnaang First Nation must be directly and meaningfully involved because of its location within the Industrial Valley, while other First Nations with historic and continuing connections to the area

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

I will support practical, measurable implementation of the City's climate plan, including:

- Energy-efficiency improvements to municipal buildings.
- Lifecycle and climate-risk considerations in infrastructure planning.
- Fleet transition where operationally and financially appropriate.
- Better waste diversion.

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

Public transit is an essential service for workers, seniors, students, people with disabilities and residents who do not drive. I will protect affordable access while reviewing routes, hours, reliability and connections to major employment, education, health-care and service destinations.

Safe active transportation requires a connected network. I will support implementation of the City's Active

## **E 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?

Water and wastewater, emergency response and the core infrastructure on which public health and safety depend must remain under strong public control and accountability. Transit, libraries, recreation, waste services and public works are also essential to an inclusive and functioning city.

As Mayor, I will support clear Council priorities, responsible asset planning and transparent budgeting, with

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

Reconciliation must be built on an ongoing government-to-government relationship with Aamjiwnaang First Nation, not limited to ceremonial recognition.

I will support regular leadership meetings, stronger engagement with Indigenous people and organizations throughout Sarnia, ongoing learning for Council and City staff, and appropriate recognition of Indigenous history

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?

Residents deserve to know what Council is deciding, why it is deciding it and whether promised results are being delivered. I will support plain-language reports, accessible meetings and materials, earlier public engagement, clearer disclosure of project costs and alternatives, and published progress reporting on major priorities.

As Mayor, I will establish a public action plan with specific commitments, timelines and measures. Progress

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?

I would be prepared to support zoning changes that allow more affordable housing, rental housing and mixed housing types in established neighbourhoods, even where there may initially be resistance to change.

Working people need housing they can afford near jobs, transit, schools and essential services. Without more housing choices, Sarnia will struggle to retain young workers, attract skilled employees and support families



## ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Working people are central to Sarnia's strength. They operate our industries, build and maintain our infrastructure, deliver public services, support local businesses and care for our community.

My approach will be collaborative, practical and accountable. I will respect workers and collective bargaining, pursue good local jobs, protect essential services and insist that major decisions be supported by evidence and transparent to the public. I welcome an ongoing relationship with the Sarnia & District Labour Council and the  
*Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire and for your commitment to building a stronger community for working people in Sarnia.*