

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:	Hari Srinivasan
Office sought:	City Councillor
Ward (if any):	Sarnia
Email:	Haridsrinivasan@gmail.com
Phone:	5193814460
Past elected office:	None
Date:	August 24, 2026

In 75 words or fewer, tell us why you are running:

I am running for Sarnia city Council, because I believe our city has more potential than we are currently realizing. Sarnia has incredible strengths, our location, our industrial base, our skilled workforce, our waterfront, our businesses, and most importantly our people, but we need to think bigger about our future. I believe Tsang's best days can still be ahead of us, but we have to build them. I want to build a Sarnia where the next generation can afford to stay businesses can grow in taxpayers can see their city moving forward.

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 delivered wherever practical. I would protect water and waste water transit with services, emergency services, libraries, and recreation. Contracting should only be considered where this is a clear measurable benefit to taxpayers and service quality with fair wages, worker, protections, and accountability built into any agreement.

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 stable, municipal employment, fair compensation, and the right of workers to organize, temporary or contract. Labour should not be used simply to avoid permanent positions or undermine collective agreements or subcontracting is necessary. Contract should include fair wage safety, local hiring, and employment standards requirements.

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 legally and practically possible major municipal project should create benefits for Sarnia residence I support fair wage schedules, apprenticeships, local hiring and community benefits, agreements that provide good jobs and training opportunities while ensuring the city receives strong value for taxpayers

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:

People working on behalf of the city should be able to earn a fair wage. I support incorporating living wage standard into procurement. We're legally permitted and financially sustainable, while ensuring contracts remain competitive and provide value for taxpayers.

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?

The city should work with local unions contractors Lampton College, and industry to strengthen apprenticeship and skilled trait pipelines municipal procurement and permitting, should encourage local employment and training while respecting provincial and federal jurisdiction, so your residence should have every opportunity to benefit from industrial economy in our community

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 good government requires listening to the people affected by his decisions I would commit to regular dialogue with labour council and local unions and seek worker input before making significant decision decisions, affecting municipal employees, employment, standards or major economic initiatives

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 support in increasing supportive and affordable housing while addressing the underlying causes of homelessness, the city should work with Lanton County service providers, indigenous partners, and organizations such as indwell to identify appropriate sites reduce unnecessary barriers and connect housing with mental health, addiction, and employment supports. we need housing that provides stability not simply temporary shelter

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:

Until sufficient permanent supportive housing exist people should not be left without a safe place to stay. I support maintaining appropriate overflow and low barrier shelter options while accelerating permanent housing solutions. The goal should be to move people from emergency shelter into stable housing as quickly as possible.

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:

Sarnia needs more affordable and supportive housing and unnecessary municipal barriers should not prevent responsible projects for moving forward. I support reviewing zoning parking and approval processes while still considering neighbourhood compatibility, safety and infrastructure capacity project should be evaluated on their merits rather than automatically opposed because they provide supportive housing.

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 must use its land, planning, tools and partnerships to increase housing supply I support working with Lampton County nonprofits, indigenous partners and senior governments to secure funding and identify suitable municipal properties. We should also streamline approvals and encourage range of housing options, including supportive, rental affordable, and attainable housing.

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:

People experiencing homelessness should be treated with dignity encampment responses should prioritize, housing, outreach, health, and social services rather than relying primarily on displacement or enforcement public safety matters, but simply moving people from one location to another does not solve homelessness

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?

The city should negotiate from maximum local economic benefit within its jurisdiction. Major investment should be encouraged to use local contractors, skilled trades, apprentices, and suppliers where possible we should also pursue diversification, so Sarnia is not dependent on a single industry investment has strengthen our tax base while creating meaningful employment opportunities.

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 be an advocate and connector. While employment and retraining for largely under provincial and federal responsibilities, council can bring industry, unions, Hampton College, employment, agencies, and governments together. Workers deserve access to retraining, new opportunities, and support as our industrial economy changes.

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?

Should build on its strengths while diversify. I would focus on downtown and waterfront development, small businesses, tourism, the Port, Clean technology, advanced manufacturing, and other emerging industries. Reducing unnecessary red tape, improving infrastructure, and creating a welcoming environment for investment can expand our tax and create opportunities for younger generations

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:

Municipal project should be an opportunity to train the next generation. Where are legally permitted, procurement should encourage apprenticeship, opportunities, local hiring, and skilled trades training. Partnerships with unions and Hampton College contractors in industry can help young people into well-being careers, while ensuring Sarnia developed a skilled workforce needed for the future.

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

I support making both areas more attractive, places to live, work, shop and visit. The city should improve streetscapes, infrastructure, parking solutions, public spaces, and waterfront connections while reducing unnecessary red tape for entrepreneurs. Supporting events, tourism and local businesses can create a stronger year-round, economy, and increasing municipal tax base.

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?

The city must take air quality in public health, seriously. I support stronger, municipal monitoring, transparent, public reporting, emergency preparedness, enclose cooperation with Aamjiwnaang First Nations, Lambton County and provincial agencies. Residents deserve timely information about environmental risks, and a municipal government willing to advocate strongly when concerns arise.

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:

Air pollution does not recognize municipal boundaries. I would advocate to provincial and federal government for stronger monitoring, transparent reporting and cumulative effects assessment in chemical valley. The city should work collaboratively with Aamjiwnaang First Nation and surrounding communities to ensure residence concerns are heard

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

I support practical climate action that also protects a portability and economic opportunity. The city should improve energy, efficiency, municipal buildings, expand tree canopy, encourage active transportation, reduce fleet emissions. We are practical and pursue Cleaner technology. Environmental improvement should be measured against clear targets while recognizing the importance of local jobs and economic growth.

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

Public transit should be reliable, affordable and accessible. I support prioritizing routes based on ridership and community needs improving connections to employment schools and services and investing in safe walking and smart cycling infrastructure transportation planning should consider seniors, youth, workers, and people who cannot rely on a personal vehicle

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?

I believe water and waste, water, emergency services transit waste management libraries and recreation are fundamental public services and should remain publicly delivered. Whenever practical these services should be properly staffed maintained and accountable to residence. Efficiency matters privatization should never be pursued simply because it sounds cheaper without examining long-term costs and service quality.

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

Reconciliation must be more than a statement or land acknowledgment. I would support regular dialogue with Aamjiwnaang First Nation, meaningful consultation on decisions affecting the community, economic, partnerships, and opportunities to learn from indigenous knowledge. The relationship should be based on respect, listening, transparency, and working together on shared community priorities

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 how decisions are made, what they cost, and whether commitments are being delivered. I would support clear public reporting, accessible meetings and communication, meaningful consultation before major decisions, and regular progress updates on council priorities. I also believe councillors should be accessible and accountable to residents between elections.

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 make the difficult decisions necessary to invest in certain infrastructure and economic future even when those investments create short-term, political or financial pressure. Delay, infrastructure, housing, and economic diversification only makes the eventual cost higher. Working people need a city that is financially responsible today while creating good jobs, affordable housing, and opportunities for the next generation.



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.