

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: TERRY BURRELL

Office sought: COUNCILLOR, CITY OF SARNIA

Ward (if any):

Email: terry@terryburrell.ca

Phone: 519-336-5545

Past elected office: COUNCILLOR

Date: SEPT 2 2026

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

RE-ELECT TERRY BURRELL 28 YEARS OF SERVICE
A CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT WHO UNDERSTANDS THE NUMBERS
I WILL WORK FOR ALL OF SARNIA

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:

Yes and no. I would keep existing services that are covered by union Contracts. Other services like Roads and Bridges should be put out for bid, as is the current practice.

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 that all of that is covered by existing bylaws.

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 believe that current bylaws do that.

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 believe that current bylaws do that.

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?

City Bylaws do not regulate Valley companies. That would be the jurisdiction of Federal and Provincial governments.

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:

City Council decisions are made in open session.

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?

Social Services are handled at the County of Lambton level of government. The City of Sarnia has met all provincial targets for providing housing. I would continue our work. The Premier came to Sarnia to thank us.

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:

People need shelter, but neighbourhoods also need to be protected.

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:

As always, I will evaluate each situation as it arises, and give my reasons at the Council meetings.

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?

We have met all Provincial targets. We have identified lands that are suitable and have reduced or eliminated many fees.

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:

Yes, we were firm, but responsible with the Rainbow Park and other groups. There were no riots.

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?

We keep the doors of communication open. We zone for industrial parks and employment lands. We facilitated the oversize load corridor. We built a new \$5 million dock in Sarnia Bay for exports. We have no control over international investment decisions.

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?

I could lie to you, but the City has no role in these decisions and we are not consulted. Our only source of income we control is property tax, and even that is based on property assessments established by the Province.

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?

We zone land and make it ready for opportunities that come along. We play up our assets: zoned land, good services and excellent transportation connections by road, rail and water. We continue to support our airport even with the loss of Air Canada.

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:

There is a lot of training of people for the skills that the City needs, like firefighters, police, road maintenance, water and sewer services, landscaping etc. Lambton College provides many courses and opportunities.

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

Provide more parking. They know how to run their own businesses.

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?

Not a City jurisdiction.

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 have been a member of the Bi-National Public Advisory Council for the St Clair River for many years.

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

This is not a City of Sarnia jurisdiction. Who writes these questions?

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

We do pretty well for a small city. I hope to continue our good work.

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?

We do quite well. More of the same.

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

The relationship seems to be good. They seem to be satisfied with the Fire, Police, water, hydro and sewer services that we provide. There are several committees with joint representation.

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?

It is a pretty open system.

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?

Balance the budget. Keep within our means.



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.