



AGENDA FOR CHANGE

Yvette Ashiri: 2022 Candidates Survey

Municipal Election Priorities	Campaign Asks	Would you work with us to achieve these goals?
<p>Improving Our Democracy</p>	<p>That the City ensure section 6.1 is enforced (Province of Ontario, Municipal Elections Act) where polls are advised to be present “in buildings containing 100 or more dwelling units”. We would like to see the City of Ottawa pass a policy reflecting access to voting.</p>	<p>It is important for everyone to be able to make their voice heard by voting. That’s why policies like these need to be put in place for those who may not be able to access polling locations that are far away. I am always in favour of making voting more accessible.</p>
	<p>Ensure polling stations open from at least 10am-8pm.</p>	<p>Yes Of course, accessibility is always a top priority and not everyone can make it to the polls before 5pm. Making sure that the hard working citizens of Orleans South-Navan can go to the polling stations will always be important to me.</p>

	The city should bring back door to door to find eligible voters.	Many people in our Ward can find voter registration confusing and complicated if they do not have someone to help them navigate the system. Therefore, the city should absolutely send people to help make sure they have their voting information. This is not only essential for democracy, but it would also make voting on election day much more efficient and easy for everyone involved.
	Ban developer lobbyist donations to city councillors	It's so important for all levels of politics to not be swayed. At the end of the day we are public servants, we should do what is best for the general public rather than the few who have extra money in their pockets. It pains me that we have city councillors making decisions to benefit developers without thinking about people. I have personally committed to not accepting any developer contributions on my campaign.
	Split the Planning Committee into separate urban-core and suburban committees similar to Agriculture & Rural Affairs Committee	Representational ways matters. The needs of the urban-core / suburban areas and rural areas are different - and that needs to be reflected at city hall.
Build Affordable Housing	ACORN wants to see a strong Inclusionary Zoning policy with 25-35% affordable rental housing targeting those in core housing need, citywide in perpetuity.	Housing is a human right and that will always be at the forefront of my policy. Everyone in Orleans South-Navan deserves a home and I will do anything I can to ensure that.

	Convert empty office buildings to non-market affordable housing	As a result of affordable Housing not being a priority by the current city council,we need to use every resource available to give those who do not have a house a place to call home.
	Any developments getting municipal public funds must have rent control on all units (not just the affordable units). This is in addition to Vacancy Control on all units - so when the tenant leaves, the landlords can't double the rent.	Rent control and vacancy control is an essential part of providing healthy homes to people. No one should feel afraid of losing their home to corporate greed.
	Reserve public land for affordable housing	The city needs to take responsibility for the lack of affordable housing and take action because, again, housing is a human right.
Fund Affordable Housing	We are calling on the City of Ottawa to dedicate \$40 million to building affordable, non-market housing to match its budget for emergency shelters.	Just as emergency shelters are a requirement, so is the affordable housing families need afterwards. The city has to make affordable housing a priority. It's important for families in emergency shelters to know they have a home to go to after they leave and will not end up in a shelter or on the streets again. To make affordable housing a priority. It's important for families in emergency shelters to know they have a home to go to after they leave and will not end up in a shelter or on the streets again.
	5% Vacant Unit Tax with revenues funding affordable housing projects	If a resident is wealthy enough to afford a house that they do not live in or need to rent,they can afford to ensure affordable housing projects are properly funded.

	Tax all luxury homes- increase property taxes on houses worth more than 2 million.	Do
Protect Affordable Housing	We need the City to enact an Anti Displacement Policy to protect affordable housing and stop tenants from being priced out of their neighbourhoods.	Absolutely, the way to create a happy and thriving city is to ensure the citizens can afford to stay in their homes and not worry about getting kicked out because of further developments.
	Ottawa needs an Anti-Renoviction Bylaw similar to New Westminister, BC's where the bylaw effectively ended renovations.	Renovictions are an increasing problem and significant threat to renters and low income communities. Policies like these are extremely important to implement. The city needs to take action to stop this predatory practice.
	No public funds, or permit approvals, to predatory landlords.	I agree the city should not be helping predatory landlords. I would love to explore different policies ensure this is not happening, for example, implementing a landlord registry.
	The City should expand its existing programs to introduce a Rent Bank like other Ontario cities.	Low income families are being left behind. With corporate greed driving up the cost of living and housing- our city needs to make sure that we are taking care of people.
	Explore a Non-Profit Acquisition Strategy that would give non-profit & social housing providers, co-ops and land trusts the right of first refusal to purchase at risk apartment buildings on the private market similar to Montreal.	Yes

<p>Tenant Engagement</p>	<p>Ottawa ACORN is calling for a proactive education program to inform tenants about their rights/resources when there are signs of potential renovictions/demovictions.</p>	<p>Many tenants are unaware of their rights and if they are in the situation of needing to go to court, don't understand the system. It is so important to give tenants the power to protect themselves against renovictions and demovictions</p>
	<p>We want to see a public registry of tenant buyouts, building permits, home and rental building sales</p>	<p>Anyone looking to live in a tenant building should be aware of the history of said building and how the current owner acquired the building and is maintaining it. Transparency is a must-have for people looking for place to live.</p>
<p>Healthy Homes</p>	<p>We want to see Ottawa follow the lead of cities like Toronto and Hamilton by creating a Tenant Defense Fund that would allow tenant groups to apply for funding for legal assistance when challenging renovictions, AGIs or when submitting tenant applications to the LTB.</p>	<p>With the current legal system, it can be extremely overwhelming to find tenant support and to understand the system. Tenants must know their rights and should have all access and funds necessary to challenge landlords in court if those rights are not being upheld.</p>
	<p>Enforcement mechanisms of property standards at the municipal level need to be improved. There should be more severe consequences for negligent landlords. We need Landlord Licensing, similar to Toronto, which would include a landlord registry, proactive inspections, increased enforcement and better standards of repair.</p>	<p>Making sure homes are safe to live in are as important as having affordable housing. It is an awful thought that there are people living in their homes and are not up to any standard of living or any codes.</p>
	<p>More funding in the city budget for repairs and maintenance in Ottawa Community Housing</p>	<p>The state of many of our Ottawa Community Housing facilities are absolutely unacceptable. Everyone Deserves a safe and healthy place to live.</p>

<p>Infrastructure and Employment</p>	<p>The City should support community organizations advocating for Community Benefits Agreements during development projects.</p>	<p>It should be a requirement for city councillors to represent the communities needs. Therefore, when a development project takes place, it should always be known how this affect those living around the project and how it helps the overall community. A huge part of my platform is better public and community consultation for all development projects.</p>
	<p>The City of Ottawa should create an Ethical Purchasing Strategy that protects workers' wages and benefits and avoids contract flipping. All employees working on city grounds should be paid a living wage.</p>	<p>Anyone working should be paid a living wage. Especially those who are maintaining the city to keep it looking beautiful and vibrant.</p>
<p>Internet for All</p>	<p>The City should leverage its own assets to create a municipal broadband program that can provide \$10-30/month home internet to low and moderate income households similar to Toronto's ConnectTO program.</p>	<p>As we move forward into the future, the internet is becoming more and more of a requirement in day to day life. The accessibility and affordability of internet must be a top priority for Ottawa going forward. I am also committed to expanding and improving internet access to rural areas.</p>
	<p>Expansion of programs that offer free or subsidized devices to low income people.</p>	<p>As mentioned, no matter who you are, devices are a requirement in this society. But, buying a phone or laptop is unnecessarily expensive. Major corporations are gouging low-income people and we must create programs to put a stop to it.</p>

	Provide FREE public wifi in all public spaces such as bus shelters, parks, community centres and more.	There is little or no rationale to not already have these programs in place. Accessibility should always be on city councillors' minds. As if Right now, there are every few options in regards to affordable internet, so, many people need to go to public spaces to access it.
Community Services	Prioritise city funding for youth services, street lighting, mental health supports, addiction supports, sidewalks and traffic controls in underserved, often low income & working class communities	Community Services Will always be one of my top priorities. We need to build a city with proper infrastructure that supports people.
	Support ACORN's national campaign to end predatory lending by calling on the Federal Government to support alternatives to payday and installment loans, lower the criminal interest rate and more.	Many Companies Use Payday and installment loans in predatory ways against low income people. It is unfair and discriminatory punish those who need to access loans.
Childcare	We need funding for affordable public/non-profit daycare spaces to be prioritized in lower income neighborhoods and communities	Those who work should not be put in an impossible decision on whether to work and pay extremely high day care fees or stay home and not be able to make ends-meet. No one should be punished for having a family to take care of.
	Parents need easier access to information in order to understand Ontario's patchwork childcare system. We need transparency and accountability to parents through a simplified online process and face to face assistance when applying for subsidies.	It is important that families understand the childcare system and that they can access subsidies and benefits if necessary. Making These systems clear and accessible is incredibly important- so those who need support can get it.

	Expanded programming for parents who work non-standard hours (ie. shift work, overnights).	Not Everyone Work 9-5,so any program targeted at families should ensure that those working non-standard hours are included as well.
Affordable & Reliable Transit	We believe transit should be free, starting with those living on social assistance.	Public transit is an important part of our city's infrastructure, environment and community- and it should be accessible to all who want to use it.
	Presto passes should be free for anyone under the low income measure, and there should be no minimum payment to upload Presto passes for people under the low income measure.	Public transit needs to be accessible to everyone.
	Increase bus service in underserved neighbourhoods.	Due to the LRT being expanded,many bus routes needed in many areas have been cut. A major part of my platform is bringing those old routes back so it's easier for people to go from point A to point B. Many people I talk to who use OTranspo take Multiple buses to get around and a train as well. Eliminating buses and stretching and already this makes everything so much worse.
Climate Change	Retrofitting Canada's aging highrise communities from a tenant led perspective is an important step in reducing Energy Poverty. Ottawa needs an Energy Equity Program that targets the lowest-income and least Energy efficient private apartment buildings across the city.	Initiatives like this are important for tackling the climate crisis and it is essential they are led by tenants themselves, who know their homes best.

	Financial support for low and moderate income households impacted by natural disasters	Everyone needs a place they call home and should not be in financial ruin because of a situation way beyond their control. Many local farmers in Navan were severely impacted by the recent storm. I spent weeks walking around the community, carrying fallen trees and talking to those who were impacted. These People deserve support.
	Ensure low and moderate income renter communities have access to green space.	Outdoor Recreational activity is proven to help with mental health and is helpful for families with young children. Having access to green space should not be only a luxury.