



Theresa Kavanagh: 2022 Candidates Survey

Municipal Election Priorities	Campaign Asks	Would you work with us to achieve these goals?
Improving Our Democracy	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.	It is particularly important to increase the engagement in the electoral process for constituencies with low turnout rates and areas with high turnover of residents
	Ensure polling stations open from at least 10am-8pm.	For the most part, this is already the practice
	The city should bring back door to door to find eligible voters.	I would like to see people in low-income buildings paid to carry out door to door outreach for this purpose
	Ban developer lobbyist donations to city councillors	I am fully supportive of this principle
	Split the Planning Committee into separate urban-core and suburban committees similar to Agriculture & Rural Affairs Committee	I would prefer to see a balance of urban and suburban councillors on one PC. This would encourage shared learning and decision-making to achieve common goals

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.	Inclusionary zoning will only be achieved with the full participation of other levels of government, including CMHC. I support IZ, but would prefer to start with a more attainable target like 10-20% and then increase over time. The City is working on an IZ policy at this time.
	Convert empty office buildings to non-market affordable housing	I would work with my counterparts in the provincial and federal governments to advocate for increased use of publicly owned buildings for AH
	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 is a provincial matter; this is something I am willing to discuss with my provincial and federal counterparts in Ottawa and other cities reviewing this policy
	Reserve public land for affordable housing	I will work collaboratively with other levels of government when opportunities arise. The City of Ottawa is already doing this and I will continue to work with the community on this issue.
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.	I am committed to moving forward on the goal of increasing municipal contributions in collaboration with our provincial and federal partners
	5% Vacant Unit Tax with revenues funding affordable housing projects	In process at this time, with my support
	Tax all luxury homes- increase property taxes on houses worth more than 2 million.	I don't believe this is within the power of municipal government
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.	I am already on record as supporting an AD policy

	Ottawa needs an Anti-Renoviction Bylaw similar to New Westminister, BC's where the bylaw effectively ended renovictions.	I will need more information on the City of New Westminister's policy and its implementation. I am open to exploring it.
	No public funds, or permit approvals, to predatory landlords.	The City needs a set of Building/Property Standards that landlords must adhere to as a condition of receiving permits/funding
	The City should expand its existing programs to introduce a Rent Bank like other Ontario cities.	I will continue to support local agencies whose mandate is to assist tenants with housing costs when in financial difficulty
	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.	Would need more information about how it works and what city resources would be needed to make the program work
Tenant Engagement	Ottawa ACORN is calling for a proactive education program to inform tenants about their rights/resources when there are signs of potential renovictions/demovictions.	I will continue to support funding for community agencies whose mandate is education on tenants' rights/resources
	We want to see a public registry of tenant buyouts, building permits, home and rental building sales	I am open to exploring the legal and practical implications of this
	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.	I will continue to support funding for community agencies whose mandate could include this work
Healthy Homes	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,	This is a very important issue with more work on it that still needs to be done. I want to collaborate with Acorn on it and intend to advocate for increased enforcement of property standards and push for more public funding.

	proactive inspections, increased enforcement and better standards of repair.	
	More funding in the city budget for repairs and maintenance in Ottawa Community Housing	OCH is already a main recipient of funding from other levels of government allocated for repairs. Internally, OCH determines its own budget and use of funds
Infrastructure and Employment	The City should support community organizations advocating for Community Benefits Agreements during development projects.	I initiated and voted for a CBA allocation for Heron Gate, and support the practice
	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 fair wage.	I am willing to explore this concept. The City needs to come to a shared agreement on the definition of fair wage
Internet for All	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.	Work towards this in progress
	Expansion of programs that offer free or subsidized devices to low income people	I will support community groups who define their particular needs and seek funding through channels available to them
	Provide FREE public wifi in all public spaces such as bus shelters, parks, community centres and more	Some work is being done on this, based on budget capacity. This will continue to broaden as resources allow
Community Services	Prioritize city funding for youth services, street lighting, mental health supports, addiction supports, sidewalks and traffic controls in underserved, often low income & working class communities	The most vulnerable citizens are already the priority of community service funding. I would add vulnerable seniors to this list of target groups.

	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.	I am willing to work with my provincial and federal counterparts on this goal
Childcare	We need funding for affordable public/non-profit daycare spaces to be prioritized in lower income neighborhoods and communities	Work is already in progress on this. I am on record as supportive
	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.	This will be part of the rollout of the new child care program, with as much face to face assistance as possible within system capacity
	Expanded programming for parents who work non-standard hours (ie. shift work, overnights).	Already being planned
Affordable & Reliable Transit	We believe transit should be free, starting with those living on social assistance.	I support free passes for social assistance recipients and low income earners
	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.	
	Increase bus service in underserved neighbourhoods.	We must balance fare reductions with service increases. Focusing housing density and affordable housing on transit hubs is the best strategy. These services are all important but depend heavily on funding from other levels of government. The municipal taxpayer should not be paying for these services
Climate Change	Retrofitting Canada's aging highrise communities from a tenant led perspective is an important step in reducing Energy Poverty. Ottawa needs an	I support incentives for landlords to increase their energy efficiency. But these incentives should be paid by provincial and federal

	Energy Equity Program that targets the lowest-income and least Energy efficient private apartment buildings across the city.	programs, not the municipal tax base. Some City-funded incentives are already happening, e.g. drainage programs
	Financial support for low and moderate income households impacted by natural disasters	These supports are the responsibility of provincial and federal funding programs. The City's role would be facilitative.
	Ensure low and moderate income renter communities have access to green space	Ottawa's new Official Plan embeds these principles