

HOUSING VOTING RECORDS



INFORMATION FOR ACORN MEMBERS
OCT 24TH, 2022 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

REPORT BY OTTAWA ACORN

A black and white photograph of a city skyline. In the foreground, there are several tall, modern apartment buildings with many windows. In the background, a historic building with a prominent spire is visible. The sky is overcast.

**2018-2022
CITY COUNCIL**

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INTRODUCTION

On October 24th, 2022 there will be a new city council in Ottawa. That means we have a real opportunity to elect a city council that works for tenants, single parents, people with disabilities, students, immigrants, the working poor and ALL low and moderate income people.

We deserve a City Hall that understands the urgency of the housing crisis, and puts the needs of struggling tenants before the wants of developers. We need STRONG affordable housing policies and we need them now.

This report reviews city councillors' positions on major housing files that ACORN members participated in between 2018 and 2022.

Our mission is to identify for our members which city councillors, when push came to shove, stood up for affordable housing or sided with developers.

The next term of council will vote on the final policy of Inclusionary Zoning and what steps the City will take to tackle renovations and demovictions. This is why it's so important to have Housing Champions on city council who will advocate for policies that reflect the right to housing.



WHAT IS ACORN?

ACORN (Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now) Canada is a multi-issue, membership-based community union of low- and moderate-income people. We believe that social and economic justice can best be achieved by building community power for change. Each member has a vote, and only members speak for the organization and have the authority to set the policy and determine the tactics of each group.

Our local and national boards are elected directly from our membership.

We have a long and deep history of organizing in low- and moderate-income neighbourhoods, fighting and winning change through a variety of means - including door knocking; petitioning; local, regional, and national meetings (both internal and public forums); and last but not least, peaceful direct actions - all building power in the process.

We have over 160,000 members organized into twenty-four neighbourhood chapters in nine cities across Canada. In the National Capital Region we have over 32,000 members.

Since 2004 we have won several important victories including payday lending legislation, raises in the minimum wage, housing rights by-laws across the country, affordable internet programs, disability rights and more.



AGENDA FOR CHANGE

The Agenda for Change is ACORN's grassroots municipal election campaign.

The Agenda for Change is a long term organizing strategy that focuses on building lists of progressive voters in strategic wards through doorknocking. We talk to people on the doors about what issues they care about this election. This helped inform our Agenda for Change platform of issues.

To date, the Agenda for Change has knocked on doors and called thousands of low and moderate income tenants across the city, organized outreach training events with our members, surveyed

candidates on our platform and more!

Unsurprisingly, the number one issue that came up on the doors was housing.

This is why ACORN members, as part of the Agenda for Change, have chosen to examine the housing voting records of city councillors running for re-election.



HOUSING VOTES 2018-2022

We looked at major housing votes that ACORN members participated in over this past term of council. These include:

- The demoviction of 142 Nepean St when City Council chose to approve the demolition of 6 affordable housing units for a parking lot
- The demovictions of Herongate when City Council approved more redevelopment under the guise it would create more affordable housing but only for those making \$109,000/year
- The decision to put Stage 3 LRT through the homes of 120 low income and working class families living in Manor Village
- The introduction of a permitting system for Airbnbs and short term rentals to stop ghost hotels from replacing potential affordable housing
- The decision NOT to implement a pilot program of a landlord registration system recommended by an outside consultant to address chronic disrepair and unsafe housing conditions
- The decision to NOT increase the capital affordable housing budgets in 2021 and 2022 so that the City could build more deeply affordable housing

SUMMARY OF VOTING RECORDS



CATHERINE MCKENNEY 100%

Catherine McKenney was a Housing Champion 15/15 votes. They received zero donations from the development industry.



SHAWN MENARD 100%

Shawn Menard was a Housing Champion 14/14 votes. He received zero donations from the development industry.



RAWLSON KING 100%

Rawlson King was a Housing Champion 11/11 votes. He received zero donations from the development industry.

SUMMARY OF VOTING RECORDS



JEFF LEIPER 86%

Jeff Leiper was a Housing Champion 12/14 votes. He received zero donations from the development industry.



THERESA KAVANAGH 82%

Theresa Kavanagh was a Housing Champion 9/11 votes. She received zero donations from the development industry.



RILEY BROCKINGTON 62%

Riley Brockington was a Housing Champion 8/13 votes. 19% of his 2018 election campaign was funded by the development industry.

SUMMARY OF VOTING RECORDS



GLEN GOWER 15%

Glen Gower was a Housing Champion 2/13 votes. 2% of his 2018 election campaign was funded by the development industry



MATTHEW LULOFF 14%

Matthew Luloff was a Housing Champion 2/14 votes. 8% of his 2018 election campaign was funded by the development industry



CATHERINE KITTS 9%

Catherine Kitts was a Housing Champion 1/11 votes. 60% of her 2018 election campaign was funded by the development industry

SUMMARY OF VOTING RECORDS



CATHY CURRY 0%

Cathy Curry was a Housing Champion 0/3 votes. It is unknown if she took any developer donations.



LAURA DUDAS 0%

Laura Dudas was a Housing Champion 0/13 votes. 16% of her 2018 election campaign was funded by the development industry.



GEORGE DAROUZE 0%

George Darouze was a Housing Champion 0/12 votes. 78% of his 2018 election campaign was funded by the development industry

SUMMARY OF VOTING RECORDS



TIM TIERNEY 0%

Tim Tierney was a Housing Champion 0/14 votes.
80% of his 2018 election campaign was funded by
the development industry



ALLAN HUBLEY 0%

Allan Hubley was a Housing Champion 0/13 votes.
99% of his 2018 election campaign was funded by
the development industry

VOTING RECORDS

| HOUSING CHAMPION? | YES | NO |
|--|--|---|
| VOTED AGAINST DEMOLISHING 142 NEPEAN FOR A PARKING LOT AT PLANNING COMMITTEE | GOWER LEIPER MENARD BROCKINGTON | CURRY DUDAS HUBLEY KITTS TIERNEY |
| VOTED AGAINST DEMOLISHING 142 NEPEAN FOR A PARKING LOT AT CITY COUNCIL | GOWER KAVANAGH KING MCKENNEY LEIPER BROCKINGTON MENARD | LULOFF DUDAS TIERNEY KITTS DAROUZE HUBLEY CURRY |
| VOTED AGAINST DEMOLISHING AFFORDABLE TOWNHOMES FOR LUXURY RENTALS IN HERONGATE AT PLANNING | KITTS LEIPER MENARD | BROCKINGTON DUDAS TIERNEY GOWER |

VOTING RECORDS

| HOUSING CHAMPION? | YES | NO |
|--|---|--|
| VOTED TO FURTHER ENGAGE TENANTS & ACORN ON RENTAL REPLACEMENTS IN HERONGATE | KAVANAGH KING MENARD MCKENNEY LEIPER | TIERNEY LULOFF GOWER DAROUZE HUBLEY BROCKINGTON KITTS DUDAS |
| VOTED TO REVIEW THE RENT OF NEW UNITS IN HERONGATE TO DEEPEN AFFORDABILITY | KAVANAGH KING MENARD MCKENNEY BROCKINGTON LEIPER | TIERNEY LULOFF GOWER DAROUZE HUBLEY KITTS DUDAS |
| VOTED TO ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY & APPLICANT TO INCREASE % OF AFFORDABLE UNITS IN HERONGATE | KAVANAGH KING MENARD MCKENNEY BROCKINGTON LEIPER | TIERNEY LULOFF GOWER DAROUZE HUBLEY KITTS DUDAS |

VOTING RECORDS

| HOUSING CHAMPION? | YES | NO |
|--|---|--|
| VOTED AGAINST THE DEMOLITION OF AFFORDABLE TOWNHOMES IN HERONGATE AT COUNCIL | KING MENARD MCKENNEY LEIPER | TIERNEY LULOFF GOWER KAVANAGH DAROUZE HUBLEY BROCKINGTON KITTS DUDAS |
| VOTED FOR A REPORT ON A DIFFERENT LRT ROUTE THAT DIDN'T DESTROY 120 HOMES IN MANOR VILLAGE | KING KAVANAGH MCKENNEY BROCKINGTON MENARD LEIPER | DUDAS TIERNEY DAROUZE LULOFF KITTS GOWER HUBLEY |
| VOTED TO POSTPONE VOTE UNTIL THERE WAS MORE INFO ON LRT ROUTES THAT DIDN'T DESTROY MANOR VILLAGE | MENARD LEIPER | DAROUZE DUDAS HUBLEY LULOFF KITTS TIERNEY |

VOTING RECORDS

| HOUSING CHAMPION? | YES | NO |
|---|---|---|
| VOTED AGAINST THE DEMOLITION OF MANOR VILLAGE FOR STAGE 3 LRT AT CITY COUNCIL | KING MCKENNEY BROCKINGTON MENARD | DUDAS TIERNEY DAROUZE LULOFF KITTS KAVANAGH GOWER LEIPER HUBLEY |
| VOTED AGAINST ALLOWING AIRBNBS IN TYPES OF UNITS THAT COULD BE RENTAL HOUSING | MCKENNEY | LULOFF |
| VOTED TO ASK THE MINISTRY TO CLARIFY IF THE CITY CAN LICENSE AIRBNBS | LULOFF MCKENNEY | |

VOTING RECORDS

| HOUSING CHAMPION? | YES | NO |
|--|--|---|
| VOTED TO PASS AIRBNB/ SHORT TERM RENTAL BYLAW TO STOP GHOST HOTELS REMOVING AFFORDABLE HOUSING AT CPSC | MCKENNEY | LULOFF |
| VOTED FOR A LANDLORD REGISTRATION PILOT TO ADDRESS DISREPAIR/ UNSAFE LIVING CONDITIONS AT CPSC | MCKENNEY | LULOFF |
| VOTED TO REQUEST CLARITY FROM THE MINISTER ON ABILITY TO LICENSE LONG TERM RENTALS | MCKENNEY KING KAVANAGH MENARD LEIPER | GOWER HUBLEY DUDAS TIERNEY BROCKINGTON DAROUZE |

VOTING RECORDS

| HOUSING CHAMPION? | YES | NO |
|--|---|--|
| VOTED FOR A LANDLORD REGISTRATION PILOT TO STOP POOR HOUSING CONDITIONS AT COUNCIL | MCKENNEY KING KAVANAGH MENARD LEIPER BROCKINGTON | DUDAS GOWER HUBLEY TIERNEY DAROUZE |
| VOTED TO MATCH AFFORDABLE HOUSING 2022 BUDGET WITH SHELTER SPENDING SO THE CITY CAN BUILD MORE HOUSING | MENARD KING KAVANAGH LULOFF MCKENNEY BROCKINGTON | TIERNEY LEIPER CURRY DAROUZE KITTS GOWER HUBLEY DUDAS |
| VOTED TO INCREASE THE 2021 HOUSING BUDGET SO THE CITY COULD BUILD MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING | LEIPER MCKENNEY KAVANAGH KING MENARD | DAROUZE TIERNEY HUBLEY GOWER LULOFF BROCKINGTON KITTS DUDAS |



OBSERVATIONS

After looking at the results of these votes, ACORN members can confidently call the following city councillors 'Housing Champions':

Catherine McKenney, Shawn Menard and Rawlson King all had 100% voting records in support of housing and 0% of their campaigns were funded by developers. **Jeff Leiper** was at 86% with zero developer donations and **Theresa Kavanagh** was at 82% with zero developer donations.

The only other councillor who had over 50% support for housing was **Riley Brockington**. His voting record showed support 62% of the time and 19% of his campaign was funded by the development industry.

The remaining city councillors only supported strong affordable housing policies 15% or less of the time.

Based on their voting records, any time **George Darouze, Laura Dudas, Tim Tierney and Allan Hubley**, were met with a choice between supporting the community or supporting developers - they chose developers every single time. We'll note that **Cathy Curry** was also in this group but has had a much shorter time on council.

The donations from developers in this group are substantial. 78% of George Darouze's campaign was funded by developers as was 80% of Tierney's and 99% of Hubley's.



CONCLUSION

It is no surprise to ACORN members and many others across Ottawa that councillors with zero developer funding stood up for STRONG affordable housing policies the overwhelming majority of the time. Even when being lobbied hard by developers. On the opposite side, councillors with 78-99% support from developers rarely voted in favour of these policies.

ACORN members have high hopes that on October 24th we can elect more Housing Champions to city council.

ACORN is calling on candidates running to be our next city council, to commit to supporting:

- A STRONG Inclusionary Zoning Policy with 25-35% affordable housing citywide in perpetuity
- An Anti Displacement Policy to protect tenants at risk of demoviction
- A Renoviction Bylaw to stop landlords from mass evicting tenants under the guise of major renovations
- A Landlord Registration System to allow for proactive inspections by the City so tenants aren't forced to live in squalor

AND MORE! Learn about the Agenda for Change Platform and which candidates have pledged support here: <https://acorncanada.org/ottawa-acorns-2022-municipal-election-candidate-survey-results/>

For information on how and where to vote go to ottawa.ca/vote

REFERENCES

Below are links to the committee & council minutes where these votes are recorded.

PLANNING Aug 25/22 <https://pub-ottawaescribemeetingscom/Meeting.aspx?Id=1370a2da-f52a-40ca-8450-7fada5723648&Agenda=PostMinutes&lang=English>

COUNCIL Aug 31/22 <https://pub-ottawaescribemeetingscom/Meeting.aspx?Id=59a74d3a-4563-4269-9196-ab3bea684571&Agenda=PostMinutes&lang=English>

PLANNING Aug 26/21 <https://pub-ottawaescribemeetingscom/Meeting.aspx?Id=0c665185-76d8-4cd4-8234-8195e9e0866f&Agenda=PostMinutes&lang=English>

COUNCIL Sept 8/21 <https://pub-ottawaescribemeetingscom/Meeting.aspx?Id=c86a72f0-def7-4fd3-8163-116a3a813a34&Agenda=PostMinutes&lang=English>

COUNCIL Nov 25/20 <https://pub-ottawaescribemeetingscom/Meeting.aspx?Id=f029a881-3551-1729-7723-1b3f306f81f9&Agenda=PostMinutes&lang=English>

TRANSPORTATION Nov 2/20 <https://pub-ottawaescribemeetingscom/Meeting.aspx?Id=a37af0ee-11dd-3bf3-4149-2723335c97cc&Agenda=PostMinutes&lang=English>

CPSC Nov 15/19 <https://pub-ottawaescribemeetingscom/Meeting.aspx?Id=61564a57-8e3f-8026-301a-019368ee0d14&Agenda=PostMinutes&lang=English>

COUNCIL Nov 27/19 <https://pub-ottawaescribemeetingscom/Meeting.aspx?Id=a7c0734c-09ef-21fb-48cd-6319cd50a766&Agenda=PostMinutes&lang=English>

COUNCIL Dec 8/21 <https://pub-ottawaescribemeetingscom/Meeting.aspx?Id=03f30a5d-9df4-4779-9480-0c2a18020c0e&Agenda=PostMinutes&lang=English>

COUNCIL Dec 9/20 <https://pub-ottawaescribemeetingscom/Meeting.aspx?Id=401bc9db-8065-24c1-8322-26af36413eca&Agenda=PostMinutes&lang=English>

COUNCIL Mar 23/22 <https://pub-ottawaescribemeetingscom/Meeting.aspx?Id=18746213-5b74-4986-a058-18689030097e&Agenda=PostMinutes&lang=English>