Hungry for Action- Municipal Candidate Survey

https://fluidsurveys.com/s/hungryforaction/ad0903a743e627793e77068667b084db15689a49/

*Filled Thursday, September 25, 2014*

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Bridges Out of Poverty St. Thomas Elgin is a collaborative of organizations, agencies and volunteers whose mission is to unite the strengths and passions in our community to eliminate poverty in St. Thomas & Elgin. We work towards achieving this goal through public education, building intentional relationships, and removing systemic barriers. On behalf of Bridges Out of Poverty, thank you for choosing to run in the municipal election. As part of a larger provincial initiative called Hungry for Action, we encourage you to share your thoughts about the role of municipal government in poverty reduction through a 12-question survey. Please respond to the survey by October 3, 2014. The purpose of Hungry for Action is to build awareness and support among local decision makers for healthy public policy to reduce poverty and food insecurity in municipalities across Ontario. Participation in the survey is voluntary. Your response will be posted online at www.endpovertyinelgin.com/vote2014. Your name will be attached to your responses without any commentary or analysis. Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to continuing the conversation about poverty in St. Thomas and Elgin County.

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Please enter the survey code provided in the cover letter that was e-mailed to you.

17082
What is your name?
Bill Fehr

What role/position are you running for in the 2014 municipal election?
Mayor

How would you best define poverty?
Please select all that apply.

- Lacking enough resources to be self-sufficient

There are a number of key roles municipal government could play in overall poverty reduction. Do you think that the municipal government should...?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>There are a number of key roles municipal government could play in overall poverty reduction. Do you think that the municipal government should...?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be an employer that implements employment practices that reduce poverty (such as provide a living wage to internal staff and outsourced services)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There are a number of key roles municipal government could play in overall poverty reduction. Do you think that the municipal government should...?</td>
<td>Don't know</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invest in community programs and processes that support poverty reduction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There are a number of key roles municipal government could play in overall poverty reduction. Do you think that the municipal government should...?</td>
<td>Don't know</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be a leader and champion for community based poverty reduction initiatives (such as raising community awareness about poverty and advocating to the federal and provincial levels of government)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There are a number of key roles municipal government could play in overall poverty reduction. Do you think that the municipal government should...?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide services to the local community that reduce poverty (such as child care, social assistance, arts and recreation)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>
Affordable housing strategies identify the ways in which the municipality will assist with housing affordability. Affordable transit programs and services increase people’s ability to participate in employment, attend important medical and other appointments, and participate fully in community life.

Food charters are statements of values, principles, and priorities that guide municipal food-related planning, policy, and programs. Food policy councils support a variety of community food initiatives and promote a healthy, sustainable, and accessible food system for all.

Housing First Policy is an approach to ending homelessness that involves giving people direct access to permanent housing, along with the services they need and want to maintain. Living wage campaigns are community-based initiatives that calculate the amount a family needs to meet basic expenses, such as housing, child care, food, and transportation and supports measures to ensure they can be met.

Municipal living wage policy ensures that municipal workers, as well as contracted staff, are paid enough to meet basic family living expenses. Sports, recreation, and other leisure activity access promotes inclusion and are associated with an enhanced quality of life through gaining new skills and improved physical and psychological well-being.

If elected, would you support the implementation of any of these public policies and programs in St. Thomas & Elgin County?

Please select one response for each item below.

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<tr>
<td>If elected, would you support the implementation of any of these public policies and programs in St. Thomas &amp; Elgin County?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affordable housing strategy</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affordable transit programs and services</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food charter</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food policy council</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If elected, would you support the implementation of any of these public policies and programs in St. Thomas &amp; Elgin County?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living wage campaigns</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal living wage policy</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports, recreation, and other leisure activity access</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If elected, would you support the implementation of any of these public policies and programs in St. Thomas &amp; Elgin County?</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td>No</td>
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Nutrition-related diseases (e.g., diabetes, heart disease, certain cancers) cost St. Thomas & Elgin County and the province of Ontario millions of dollars annually. Low income residents can’t afford to eat a healthy diet, once housing and other essential bills are paid. What would you do, if elected, to help ensure that everyone in St. Thomas & Elgin County is able to afford a healthy diet?

We do not have a facility that deals with that under Central Elgin control. It is under Elgin county and we would have a Municipality representative on that board. Under that organization the St. Thomas and Elgin Health unit I would advocate for this.

If elected, would you support poverty reduction in St. Thomas & Elgin? Yes

If you would support poverty reduction in St. Thomas & Elgin, please provide at least two specific examples or actions of support you would take.

In the area of encouraging hiring of qualified people suffering under poverty
Through advocacy where we sit on boards that are able to work solving poverty issues. That would be health units, housing authorities and some input on seniors facilities.
Please select up to three issues you would be committed to championing, if elected.
Select #1 for your first choice, #2 for your second choice and #3 for your third choice

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<tr>
<td>Please select up to three issues you would be committed to championing, if elected.</td>
<td>(No response)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affordable child care is available for all families</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please select up to three issues you would be committed to championing, if elected.</td>
<td>(No response)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affordable public transit is available for all individuals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please select up to three issues you would be committed to championing, if elected.</td>
<td>Choice 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extensive and affordable library services are available</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please select up to three issues you would be committed to championing, if elected.</td>
<td>Choice 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extensive and affordable recreation programs are available for all individuals</td>
<td>(No response)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please select up to three issues you would be committed to championing, if elected.</td>
<td>(No response)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free income tax clinics are available to families who need them</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please select up to three issues you would be committed to championing, if elected.</td>
<td>(No response)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People on low-income have access to subsidies to live in private market rental properties</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please select up to three issues you would be committed to championing, if elected.</td>
<td>(No response)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People who are homeless get housed as quickly as possible</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please select up to three issues you would be committed to championing, if elected.</td>
<td>(No response)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portion of all new housing developments is dedicated to subsidized housing for those living on low-income</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please select up to three issues you would be committed to championing, if elected.</td>
<td>Choice 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of people living in poverty is reduced</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please select up to three issues you would be committed to championing, if elected.</td>
<td>(No response)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The overall health of our community improves</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please select up to three issues you would be committed to championing, if elected.</td>
<td>(No response)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The right to live in a food secure community with dignified access to sufficient, affordable, healthy, safe, and culturally appropriate food is obtained by all</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

In your opinion, what level of responsibility do each of the following groups have to reduce poverty?
Please select one response for each of the items below.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In your opinion, what level of responsibility do each of the following groups have to reduce poverty? Charitable Organizations and Not-for-Profits</td>
<td>A Lot of Responsibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In your opinion, what level of responsibility do each of the following groups have to reduce poverty?</td>
<td>A Lot of</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In your opinion, what level of responsibility do each of the following groups have to reduce poverty? | General Public not Living in Poverty

(No response)

In your opinion, what level of responsibility do each of the following groups have to reduce poverty? | General Public Living in Poverty

Some Responsibility

In your opinion, what level of responsibility do each of the following groups have to reduce poverty? | Private Business

Some Responsibility

In your opinion, what level of responsibility do each of the following groups have to reduce poverty? | Municipal Government

Some Responsibility

In your opinion, what level of responsibility do each of the following groups have to reduce poverty? | Provincial Government

A Lot of Responsibility

In your opinion, what level of responsibility do each of the following groups have to reduce poverty? | Federal Government

A Lot of Responsibility

Is there anything else that you would like to add?

Please provide any additional comments, opinions or ideas that you would like to share.

Many of the areas in the public policies and programs are no because it is not under the municipality control.

As an individual I have and am involved in charities and do donations to help support underprivileged. When I say underprivileged, I know that it includes way too many who struggle financially just to feed, shelter and raise their families.

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Thank you very much for your participation! Your responses will be posted and shared by Tuesday October 7, 2014 at www.endpovertyelgin.com/vote2014