

Ken Johnston (August 13th response to the questions on his Facebook page)

Thank you for these questions. Social well being was one of my platform issues when I ran in 2013 and I am pleased we made many accomplishments during my first term. As to question 1, Council has a primary role to ensure and sustain quality of life for all citizens . Social well being encompasses affordable access to amenities, inclusion, freedom from racism and discrimination, provision of safety ,property reduction , all of which Council can play a legislative and advocacy role. As to Question 2...,Although I believe I partially answered this in "1", Council has adopted inclusivity and a positive, welcoming community as part of it's Social policy which I will provide further comment in Question 4. A barrier free community from a movement perspective ensures construction and development has barrier free design but I believe you also speak to Social barriers which I will cover in Question 3. As to Question 3....., Some of my responses here are reflected in Questions 1 and 2. Social isolation is often a result of poverty, physical and mental illness loss of opportunity . It can also result from language, age and cultural factors. Support and advocacy for those organizations working towards the eradication of those contributing factors is one strategy I espouse. Another is ensuring we have formal planning around Civic events and celebrations ensuring inclusion. Building stronger neighbourhoods and community associations that reach all residents are strategic actions I have helped lead in this term and commit to building going forward. As to Question 4....., Again some of the response is contained in the prior responses. Personally I use the Social Policy Framework as a "lens" with which I view and will continue to view the Capital and Operating budgets, Municipal Planning Applications, CHAB and FCSS applications, bylaw and zoning amendments, movement and mobility planning, all facets of City strategy. The Policy has enabled us to take a holistic social approach to the way we run our City and sustain quality of life. It very much is a "living" document that I will continue to deliver upon. Thank you