

This message has been approved for general distribution to the CAW Local 555 Membership by Matt Root, President

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Members,

The Canadian Labour Congress' Municipalities Matter 2010 campaign – *Rethinking Cities & Communities for Working Families* - has been on the ground and running since the kick-off last September.

As part of this campaign, area Labour Councils have gone through the municipal election campaign endorsement process in their communities. They have sent out questionnaires (which focussed on infrastructure, taxation, liability, sustainability, procurement, and fair wages), reviewed the candidates' responses and have made decisions on which mayors, councillors and school board trustees they will be supporting at the ballot box.

The Hamilton and District Labour Councils endorsed candidates who support Labour's issues, which include:

- a [“Made-in-Canada” purchasing policy](#) at the municipal and school board level
- saying **NO to public-private partnerships (P3s)**
- [defending decent wages and living standards](#)
- working to use [energy better by retrofitting public buildings](#)
- stopping urban sprawl by increasing the density of our neighbourhoods, and
- working to increase and diversify municipal revenues through grants and revenue-sharing by the provincial and federal governments.

The Hamilton and District Labour Council has gone through this process which has resulted in the following brochure and candidate endorsements. The brochure is attached and can also be found on our website <www.cawlocal555.ca>.

For those members who live outside the greater Hamilton area you may wish to contact your areal labour council directly.

In solidarity,

CAW Local 555
Executive Board

Website: <http://www.cawlocal555.ca>

Executive Contacts: <http://www.cawlocal555.ca/doclinks/execbd.pdf>

Steward Contacts: <http://www.cawlocal555.ca/doclinks/jtstc.pdf>



Labour Councils have a proud history of local community involvement and participation. We appreciate the important role that municipal governance plays in the daily lives of our members and their families. The following priorities were developed in consultations with local unions and community groups and will go a long way to make our communities a better place for everyone. **Municipalities Matter!**

INFRASTRUCTURE

Building vibrant, thriving communities means smart planning and development with special consideration for how we care for our citizens and preserve our heritage.

We want:

- Adequate, affordable, accessible housing and community centres, libraries, and public services that meet the needs of our citizens.
- Public water and waste water is key so everyone in our communities are assured fresh, safe water as a basic right.
- Public affordable transit is a must. We need to also increase bicycle lanes, walking trails, and green spaces.
- No to the Public-Private-Partnership (P3) model of service delivery, they have been proven not to work in cities across this country.

PROCUREMENT: A "MADE-IN-CANADA" PURCHASING POLICY

Our city councils spend a huge portion of our tax dollars purchasing goods and services to run our cities. Procurement is a powerful economic stimulus and should be used as such. We want:

- "Buy Local, Buy Canadian" procurement policies to support local businesses and jobs.
- Local Councils should pressure the federal and provincial government to "Buy Canadian".

MUNICIPAL REVENUES AND TAXATION

From every tax dollar collected in Canada, municipalities receive only 8¢! To maintain local public services, municipalities need long-term, predictable, stable funding.

- Municipal Councils should challenge the provincial and federal government to improve the funding regime for municipalities.
- Councils should lead ongoing public consultation and education about municipal taxes.

A LIVING WAGE: FAIR WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS

Wage inequality is the root cause of many social problems our communities confront on a daily basis.

City Councils should:

- Adopt a living wage policy.
- Maintain public services.
- Include fair wage/working conditions requirements within municipal procurement policy.

SUSTAINABILITY: THE GREEN AGENDA

Green jobs, green spaces, houses and buildings. City Council should implement a sustainability plan that includes:

- A serious public debate about urban density/urban sprawl.
- Balanced development with land use for agriculture, parks, etc.
- A local recycling program (organics and solids).

EDUCATION

Our children's education is the foundation of a productive society. As provincial governments head into another round of cuts the underfunding of our school boards will continue. We need strong school trustees who will advocate for:

- Publicly funded and delivered education.
- A new education funding formula.
- A limit on class sizes.



municipalities
matter!



VOTE

FOR CANDIDATES WHO
SUPPORT WORKING FAMILIES



municipalities
matter!

LABOUR'S PLAN TO BUILD
**VIBRANT & SUSTAINABLE
COMMUNITIES**
ACROSS CANADA

- PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE**
Creating jobs by building the communities we need for the future
- PROCUREMENT**
A "Made in Canada" purchasing policy
- MUNICIPAL REVENUES**
Building a sustainable fiscal base for our cities & communities
- FAIR WAGES & WORKING CONDITIONS**
- SUSTAINABILITY**
Labour's green agenda
- EDUCATION**



MONDAY, OCTOBER 25

City of Hamilton

Mayor:

Fred Eisenberger

Councillors:

Ward 1 — Brian McHattie

Ward 3 — Bob Black

Ward 4 — Sam Merulla

Ward 5 — Jaswinder Bedi

Ward 7 — Scott Duvall

Ward 8 — Bruce Whitelaw

Ward 9 — Geraldine McMullen

Ward 11 — Brenda Johnson

Ward 13 — Ron Tammer

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board

School Trustees:

Ward 3 — Tim Simmons

Ward 6 — Jeannie Martel

Ward 7 — Marlon Picken

Ward 8 — Wes Hicks

Ward 9 & 10 — Robert Barlow

Ward 11 & 12 — Alex Johnstone

Ward 13 — Jessica Brennan

Hamilton & District LABOUR COUNCIL



Canadian Labour Congress
Congrès du travail du Canada

