



Municipal Election Primer 2018

Waterloo Region has a long history of welcoming immigrants and refugees. At the time of the 2016 Census, immigrants and refugees accounted for 22.6% of the population. They often face challenges to settling, working, and developing a strong sense of belonging in Waterloo Region. Elected municipal officials are responsible for overseeing services that impact the lives of newcomers, and have an important role in working with their federal and provincial counterparts to ensure that Waterloo Region can address its residents' challenges and fully benefit from the contributions of immigrants, refugees and temporary migrants to community and economic development.

Make immigration matter in this municipal election.

Suggested candidate questions

Immigrants and refugees account for 22.6% of Waterloo Region's population, and the community attracts a growing number of temporary migrants (international students, temporary foreign workers, refugee claimants) each year. **If elected, how will you work with the Immigration Partnership and other stakeholders to ensure the community has the supports and conditions it needs for newcomers to successfully settle, work and belong?**

Access to public transportation is essential for recent immigrants, refugees and other people living on low income to be able to get to work or school and fully engage in community life, yet many can't afford it. **If elected, how will you address the affordability of public transit for newcomers and other people living on low income in Waterloo Region?**

Each year, new immigrants move to Waterloo Region and pay municipal taxes, but they cannot vote in municipal elections. **Do you support permanent residents voting in municipal elections and what steps would you take to address this locally if elected?**