

David Ferreira

Ward / Position: Ward 13 | Campaign Website: reelectdavid.ca

Question	Answer
Q6 — Biggest Challenges Facing the Sector & Actions Candidates Would Support	Nonprofits and charities are essential to London's social and economic well being and the reality as I have seen it is that many are being asked to do more with less. All around costs are rising, demand for assistance is growing, funding is often short term, and organizations are having difficulty retaining experienced frontline staff. When reelected, I will continue to support more stable and predictable municipal funding, including multiyear funding where possible. I have already committed to this publicly and on the record. I also think the City needs to involve nonprofits more directly in the policies and programs that affect the people they serve, and use what can be learned from them to push other levels of government where the responsibility or capacity goes beyond the municipality.
Q7 — Support a Formal, Ongoing Dialogue Mechanism With the Sector (Yes/No + Why)	Yes
Q8 — Support Multi-Year Funding & Longer-Term Partnerships (Yes/No + Why)	Yes — I have highlighted my support above, but I would add that the evidence shows multiyear funding is a more effective and sustainable approach. It gives organizations greater stability to plan, retain staff, strengthen programs, and focus on outcomes instead of continually competing for short-term funding. That stability is important to the people who rely on these services. When successful pilot programs end, or programs we know are working lose funding, the impact is ultimately felt by people and communities across the city. People can lose trusted workers and supports they may have spent months or years building. Frontline staff face uncertainty and burnout, and experienced people can leave the sector altogether. We need to focus more on policies that have long-term impact, and that includes multiyear funding for evidence-based programs that are working.
Q9 — Ensuring Nonprofits Are Included in Decision-Making	I would like to see nonprofits included at the beginning of funding discussions that affect them, and not only consulted after priorities and plans have already been decided. These organizations are employers, service providers, community partners, advocates, and an important part of London's social and economic infrastructure. I would support a more formal and ongoing role for the nonprofit sector in City planning and decision-making. Bringing together governments, nonprofits, businesses, and other sectors gives us a better understanding of what is working, what is practical, and where the gaps are and how to move forward and build a stronger community.
Q10 — The City's Role in Supporting Nonprofit Infrastructure	I believe the City has an important role in supporting the infrastructure that helps the nonprofit sector succeed, including shared spaces, capacity building, and stronger collaboration across sectors. For example, the Downtown Plan, which I pushed for this past term, includes some of this type of infrastructure. While it is not specific to nonprofits, it creates spaces and opportunities that can be used by nonprofit organizations and the broader community, with room to further integrate the sector into that work. I also think this type of infrastructure goes beyond the examples listed in the question. It can also include access to technology and data, shared digital tools, and better coordination between organizations.

Question	Answer
Q11 — The Nonprofit Sector's Role & What Success Looks Like	Over the next four years, I hope to see the nonprofit sector playing a central role in both London's economic and community wellbeing. Nonprofits provide many of the supports that allow people to participate fully in our city and economy, including but not limited to housing, employment, food security, arts and culture, and social connection. For me, success should be measured by the results we are seeing over the next four years and beyond. That includes stronger staff retention, greater stability for organizations, and better outcomes for the people using these services. Importantly for the sector, it includes less time spent moving from one short-term funding cycle to the next. We should also be able to clearly show how the work of the sector reduces pressure on City services and other public systems by addressing needs earlier and preventing problems from becoming more difficult and costly to respond to. In my experience, one of the biggest barriers is a lack of understanding by City hall/ Council of how this work benefits the City, along with the political will to try new approaches, continue what is working, and expand it where the results support doing so. A strong nonprofit sector is not separate from a strong economy or city. The two can have a symbiotic relationship.
Q12 — Other Priorities Candidates Wanted the Sector to Know	My priorities are about building a city where people have greater stability, opportunity, and dignity. That means addressing housing affordability and homelessness, strengthening our downtown, improving access to services, and doing more to prevent people from reaching a crisis in the first place. The nonprofit sector can be a major part of that work. I want the City to treat nonprofits as partners, listen to frontline workers and the people they serve, and put resources behind programs and approaches that are producing results. My approach to governance has remained the same, which is do the work, listen to people, be transparent about decisions, and spend public dollars prudently.
Q14 — Commit to Engaging With & Supporting the Nonprofit Sector (Yes/No + Why)	Yes — Yes. I commit to this, and I believe my record over the past four years shows that I have already been doing this work. I would continue that work in the next term and keep pushing for a relationship with the nonprofit sector that is based on partnership, open dialogue, and a better understanding of the role these organizations play in supporting people across London. Page 4: Authorship Declaration