

Jonathan Sher

Ward / Position: Ward 7 | Campaign Website: <https://sherward7.ca/#about>

Question	Answer
Q6 — Biggest Challenges Facing the Sector & Actions Candidates Would Support	The tasks are too large and the time is too short. Raising money is a challenge. So too is obtaining predictable, consistent funding that enables long-term plans to be implemented. There is also pressure from taxpayers to limit the City's financial involvement. Some taxpayers feel that some non-profits and charities spend too much on administration rather than on actions. City Hall can continue to fund projects that deliver positive outcomes as well as newer initiatives that draw upon best practices in other jurisdictions. City council needs to prioritize which efforts to support so we make better use of limited financial capacity. We also can do better sharing data and stories about success to build broader, public support.
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 — Depending on the organization and the expected outcomes, yes. This would be similar to what the London Community Foundation does.
Q9 — Ensuring Nonprofits Are Included in Decision-Making	This relies on the organizations themselves and their members to meet with City Councillors and the Mayor individually as well as appearing at public participation meetings. I would welcome such meetings so I can learn from the experiences and expertise of those non-profits. Dialogue builds trust and understanding.
Q10 — The City's Role in Supporting Nonprofit Infrastructure	Pillar already provides shared spaces and the City could promote that. I would want to know more about what aspects of "capacitybuilding" you refer to as it has a variety of meanings depending on the context. The sector is much too diverse for the City to support infrastructure for all particularly as it relates to cross sector collaboration, so I would want to learn from you in which areas you see the most potential.
Q11 — The Nonprofit Sector's Role & What Success Looks Like	Some will be involved in the cultural and music sector that in the short term will bring entertainment dollars (for example, the City already supports London as a Music City with staff resources) and in the long term serve as a better magnet to attract economic investment that creates better employment. As someone who has done research and writing for an economic development agency, I know that entrepreneurs and established business prefer to locate in cities whose cultural vibrancy helps attract employees. As for the wellbeing of our community, we must care better for our most vulnerable, as an example, by collaborating with charities like Indwell to provide affordable housing as has been done at the South Street site. Success can be measured thru the regular satisfaction survey the City does. How we measure "Economic Vitality" and "Community Wellbeing" matters and I say that as someone who has taught and written about data analytics measures. We need work together and consider best practices elsewhere to develop meaningful measures that are good proxies for our goals.

Question	Answer
Q12 — Other Priorities Candidates Wanted the Sector to Know	—
Q14 — Commit to Engaging With & Supporting the Nonprofit Sector (Yes/No + Why)	Yes