

Lawrence-Zachary Howe

Ward / Position: Mayor | Campaign Website: lawrencezachary.ca

Question	Answer
Q6 — Biggest Challenges Facing the Sector & Actions Candidates Would Support	The biggest problem without a doubt is institutional capture. A nonprofit has to fight the system to be effective. The system instead of excluding the nonprofit invites them in, schmoozes them, makes them feel like they're getting somewhere, being heard, offers some money - takes the fire out of the nonprofit. Makes the nonprofit ineffective because the government does what it was going to, nonprofits words go in one ear and out the other, this demoralizes the nonprofits supporters, makes funding and volunteers harder to come by. Right now London's focus is on lining the pockets of rent seekers and donors, leaving the voices of those who fight for the people of this city entirely unheeded. You can't address this with "an action." You have to elect someone who values the community and will fight for it, which gives that person the mindset to genuinely listen and collaborate with nonprofits.
Q7 — Support a Formal, Ongoing Dialogue Mechanism With the Sector (Yes/No + Why)	Yes — To make this work criticism has to be encouraged. Having all the nonprofits get together to tell you why you're failing the city is an opportunity to get new insight and course correct or to justify your position so they can relay that to their supporters lowering discontent. Otherwise it's a good opportunity to hear new ideas and get praise. Either way it's a win-win.
Q8 — Support Multi-Year Funding & Longer-Term Partnerships (Yes/No + Why)	No — I'm not against it in a vacuum. I'm against it for two completely different reasons. Firstly, if your funding is determined by the entity you exist to challenge then your challenges will be tempered, which in turn results in impotence. Second, if funding is guaranteed, then you have no incentive to do the work the nonprofit organization exists to do. This, in my view, exposes these organizations to being captured by apathetic leadership who can coast with assured funding. If a solution to these concerns was presented to me, I would likely change my stance but currently I don't know of one.
Q9 — Ensuring Nonprofits Are Included in Decision-Making	Depends on the nonprofit. Nonprofits aren't a monolith, they all have different aims, and therefore in decision and planning carry different weights. If we're planning to build in a community and the neighbourhood groups say no, then I wouldn't just plow through. The way I see nonprofits, in their intended form, is as protectors of an aspect of the community. If that aspect is affected they should be able to be heard and heeded.
Q10 — The City's Role in Supporting Nonprofit Infrastructure	I think it's vital. A city without grass roots organizations is a city without a future because it means the citizens have given up at best, and will revolt at worst. I like infrastructure because once it's paid for it's a lot harder to be held against a nonprofit - it's a community space. Also infrastructure has the added benefit of being a high cost AND high impact purchase, upkeep being negligible - ideally handoff-able subsequently.
Q11 — The Nonprofit Sector's Role & What Success Looks Like	Depends on the organization. I have a blueprint to reverse the managed decline of this city, it has 27 positions, divided between 10 major and 17 minor, and I expect I'll face opposition from those who like to exploit this city regardless of how far it falls. In that case, having allies loyal to the people of this city to counterbalance that will be convenient. As for success, I measure it in how much I can pry the parasites grip off this city.

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