

Lois Ward

Ward / Position: Ward 10 | Campaign Website: loiswarfdforward10.com

Question	Answer
Q6 — Biggest Challenges Facing the Sector & Actions Candidates Would Support	Collaboration is the biggest challenge. Instead of fighting for a tiny piece of the pie, joining forces for greater impact. I think Pillar is doing a good job at bringing nonprofits and charities together. I think City Council can provide resources towards a staffed communication hub for info sharing and incentives for true collaboration amongst nonprofits.
Q7 — Support a Formal, Ongoing Dialogue Mechanism With the Sector (Yes/No + Why)	Yes — I think a standing committee might be the best fit. In fact I would support integration of reps from the nonprofit sector being members of the current standing committees. I heard from a current councillor that she sat on advisory committees prior to her term as councillor and City Council did not take any reports into consideration and she felt her time and the time of the other members was wasted.
Q8 — Support Multi-Year Funding & Longer-Term Partnerships (Yes/No + Why)	Yes — Absolutely for stability in providing necessary services. We have to stop only funding projects and jerking organizations around depending on what a particular City Council or level of government thinks is most important in a given year. The municipal level of government can provide leadership and advocacy with other levels of government to gain more consistent core funding for the essential services nonprofits provide.
Q9 — Ensuring Nonprofits Are Included in Decision-Making	Representatives from nonprofits need formal roles on standing committees, and there has to be robust recruitment for advisory committees, boards and commissions from the nonprofit sector. And Council has to actually use their expertise. Too often advisory committees are used to placate the community into thinking consultation is actually talking place. Accountability, as it pertains to the duty to consult the citizens of London, has to be part of the process during the Council's 4 year term, not just in an election year.
Q10 — The City's Role in Supporting Nonprofit Infrastructure	Representatives from the nonprofit sector have to be actively invited by the City to be part of both the conversation and actions for shared spaces, capacity-building, and cross-sector collaboration. The City has to acknowledge their reliance on the nonprofit sector to deliver essential services, and demonstrate this by including them in the actual decision making and delivery processes.
Q11 — The Nonprofit Sector's Role & What Success Looks Like	The nonprofit sector includes tourism, culture (which includes the arts) and heritage. They are huge economic drivers for our city. They do so by nurturing a diversity of views, which nurtures creativity and innovation, which in turn pumps up our economy. Success looks like vibrant third spaces everywhere in the city where the magic happens. Nonprofit organizations that serve people who are in distress (homelessness, addiction, mental health) bring safety to our most vulnerable citizens and create a bridge for them into housing and care and reduces the burden on the health care system and emergency services. Success looks like a 50% reduction in homelessness over 4 years and welcoming streets with lots of foot traffic at all times of day.

Question	Answer
Q12 — Other Priorities Candidates Wanted the Sector to Know	I worked closely with the nonprofit sector while with the Nova Scotia Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage for 10 years. I learned first hand the significant economic impact nonprofits of all sorts make in the greater community. These organizations have some of the greatest depth of knowledge in their areas of expertise and I will always call upon them for their understanding of issues.
Q14 — Commit to Engaging With & Supporting the Nonprofit Sector (Yes/No + Why)	Yes