

1. Many newcomers and marginalized folks, including Chinese seniors and families, use and frequent community centres to stay active and involved. Some community centres are located in neighbourhoods with high concentrations of the Chinese community such as the Kanata Recreation Centre, Richcraft Recreation Complex (Kanata), Minto Recreation Complex (Barrhaven), Walter Baker Sports Centre, Plant Recreation Centre, McNabb Community Centre and more. How will you ensure these community centres are accessible to [those who do not speak or read the dominant languages](#) , being English or French?

Many of the signs and posters that are in these locations with high concentrations of people who read and speak Chinese and other languages should be in Chinese and other languages. Making certain that the people who are hired in those locations speak Chinese would also be beneficial. Having worked in newcomer services for most of my professional life, I know how important it is for people to have services or access to services in their mother tongue. It is also less likely that Seniors will learn either English or French, but are very vital and important members of our community, and so we must support them to stay active and involved.

2. OC Transpo

a. This fall, numerous bus routes were changed and shortened to encourage LRT transfers. The LRT has since been delayed to Winter of 2019. Shortened routes like that of the [#11](#) that passes through Somerset St. West and the Chinatown area impact the Chinese community, including seniors, where additional transfers and shortages may affect their accessibility to and from destinations. What will you do to address these issues while the LRT is delayed and while the LRT is operating?

It is key that we get these routes up and running again. I do not accept the argument that it will be too onerous to change them back. The bus routes should remain in place until such a time as we have a guarantee that the LRT will be up and running.

b. How will you engage customers whose dominant language is not English or French in public consultations regarding issues such as bus route changes, [town halls](#) and [customer feedback](#) ?

It is very important to me that people can communicate and participate in important public consultations in any language that they use. There is a high concentration of Mandarin speakers in College Ward, and I am lucky enough to speak a little Mandarin, which has made our interactions easier. When I worked in Newcomer services, we asked people to let us know in advance what language they used and then we find interpreters for them. We would let people know ahead of time that there would be interpreters present (often doing simultaneous interpretation). I have also seen interpretation done on a screen with the interpreter typing what was being said.

I would also utilize media, such as radio and newspapers in many different languages to advertise town halls and the fact that our constituency office will accept phone calls and feedback in whatever language people use. There is also the option of having an online 311 system and ways to represent what people are looking for on my ward website using pictures rather than words. We need to be creative and willing.

c. What will you do to ensure that OC Transpo's services are more affordable and accessible for low-income folks?

I would support a reduction in price for bus passes for low-income folks and would ask that the minimum amount to refill a presto pass be reduced.

In addition, it will be important that we ensure that our bus routes are reliable, so that low income folks can count on them to get to their places of employment, children's schools, etc.

3. Current [Rideau Raceway casino ads](#) are targeting the Chinese community in Ottawa with orientalist graphics and advertisements written entirely in Chinese characters. Gambling is a social activity ingrained in Chinese culture and is also a common problem within the community. How will you ensure that the community is not being unfairly targeted for gambling? What will you do to also challenge the stereotypes and racial bias that is prevalent in the city and that Chinese Canadians continue to face?

This is the first time I have heard about these targeted ads and it is sickening to hear that this is happening. As a Councillor I will support the work of Ottawa Public Health and other organizations who are working on this issue in the Chinese community. Should Ottawa Public Health require additional funding to address the problem, I would also support this.

The stereotypes and racial bias that is prevalent in the city and that Chinese Canadians continue to face need to be challenged on multiple levels. Racism is not easily eliminated, but the city can work with various levels of government to address racism in general. The city can also work with organizations that represent specific communities to understand the racism that they are experiencing and come up with tailored approaches to challenge the stereotypes that they face.

4. Post-amalgamation, the City of Ottawa has [never had a Black, East or Southeast Asian councillor on city council](#). What will you do to ensure that marginalized groups have the same opportunity and chance to be involved in municipal politics as others do?

It takes a great deal of money and connections to mount a campaign in our current system. In a municipal campaign, you do not have a party backing you, which means you will have to raise your own funds from your own connections.

Simply put, we must ask people from marginalized groups to run. Then we need to support their candidacy financially, through volunteering on their campaigns, and through providing support from folks who have a great deal of municipal campaign experience. We can also make a concerted effort to create networking opportunities within political circles.

We can also provide them with opportunities to sit on committees in order to work toward increasing their presence at the decision-making table. It is also important to convince people that municipal issues matter and that their voice is an important one in addressing them.

5. Chinatown has been experiencing gentrification for years. Newer development is pushing out lower income families and local businesses, changing its landscape and affordability. Chinatown is not only a home to many, but a hub for those from the Chinese community living in other wards to come together to reconnect with food, family and history. How will you ensure that

affordable housing and suitable businesses remain while retaining the history and heart of the neighbourhood?

Planning and development that is in the public interest is key in a place like Chinatown. Ensuring that the voices of the residents are heard (see question above about community consultations that are inclusive) so that the character of the community is retained. Our city is richer for having a thriving Chinese community. We should be ensuring its longevity through our planning tools. I will also support the Councillor representing Chinatown residents in their efforts to maintain the unique and important character of the community.