

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?

As a former employee of the City at Plant Recreation Centre in the heart of little Italy and Chinatown, I am very aware of the need of newcomers and those who might not speak English or French. I would be glad to follow-up on any linguistic barriers in any centres in Lowertown, Vanier or Sandy Hill.

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?

All four councillors, including myself, representing our city's core have spoken out on the changes to OC Transpo ahead of the LRT opening. We are advocating for re-establishment of services levels prior to September 2, 2018.

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 ?

As a city councillor, it is my duty that all are engaged and represented as part of city-led consultations. I am not aware of issues of engagement but remain open to hearing feedback.

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

The council made transit very affordable for those with specific affordability needs including students, seniors and low income. The biggest affordability issue relating to our transit fees are in relations to the adult monthly passes which needs to be frozen for the next four years.

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?

I was one of the strong voices in not having a casino in downtown Ottawa to ensure that vulnerable residents are not targeted and impacted. The issue of targeting the Chinese community should be raised with the OLG. Separately, as a member of the Ottawa public health board, we have clearly articulated the risk of problem gambling on our community.

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?

As a spouse of a Chinese-Canadian, I recognize the importance of every voice being represented at the council table. I have regularly participated in initiatives with our youth and ethnically diverse communities to listen as well as engage in municipal affairs and will continue to support and encourage their involvement.

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?

Chinatown is not in my ward, but as chair of Ottawa Community Housing I certainly advocate for more affordable units for seniors, families and newcomers in our city's core. I certainly understand first hand the impacts of the community because my spouse grew up in Chinatown.