

Ward 2 Seniors Town Hall

Thursday, April 24, 2025

YWCA Hamilton
75 MacNab Street South
12:00pm to 3:00pm
Lunch provided



CAMERON
KROETSCH
City Councillor

WARD 2



Join Ward 2 City Councillor Cameron Kroetsch to share your thoughts on issues impacting seniors in Ward 2

Lunch will be provided and there will be an opportunity to ask Councillor Kroetsch questions about issues important to you as you age in downtown Hamilton

Agenda for the Ward 2 Town Hall

- Performance by Tottering Biped Theatre
- Land acknowledgement
- Town Hall Code of Conduct and Introductions
- Funding for City Services
- Ward 2 in Context
- Campaign Priorities for Seniors
- Dedicated Programming for Seniors
- Questions and Answers

Land Acknowledgement

- Huron-Wendat, Neutral, Erie, Mississaugas, Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe
- Haldimand Tract
- Dish with One Spoon
Wampum Belt



Town Hall Code of Conduct

- Questions at end of each section and at **the end**
- Raise your hand - we'll keep a speakers list
- Kindness and generosity first - no yelling, name calling, or rudeness - we'll adjourn the meeting
- Interrupt if you need clarity or help

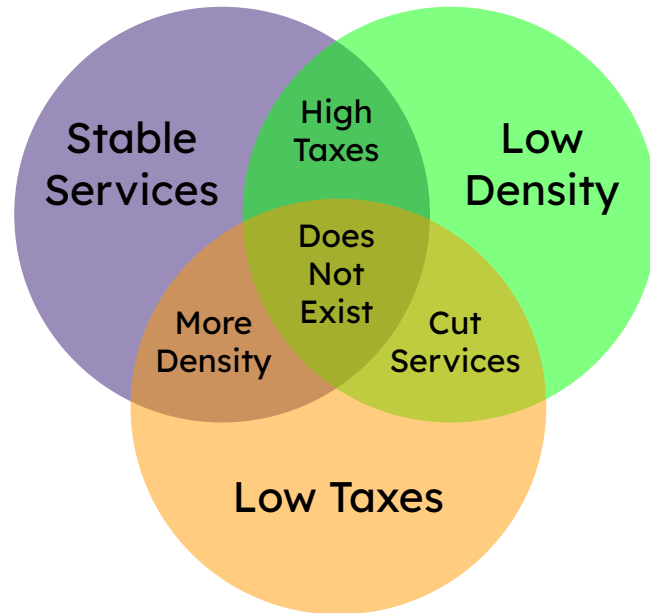
Introductions to the Ward 2 Team

- Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
- Constituency Coordinators -
 - Liesl Thomas
 - Joey McCullough
 - Phoenix Friesen



Funding for City Services

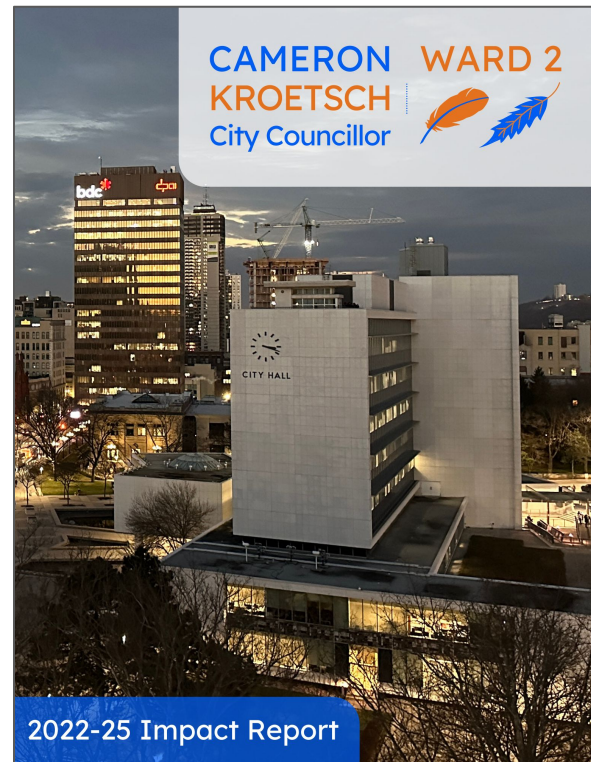
- Stable Services
- Low Density
- Low Taxes



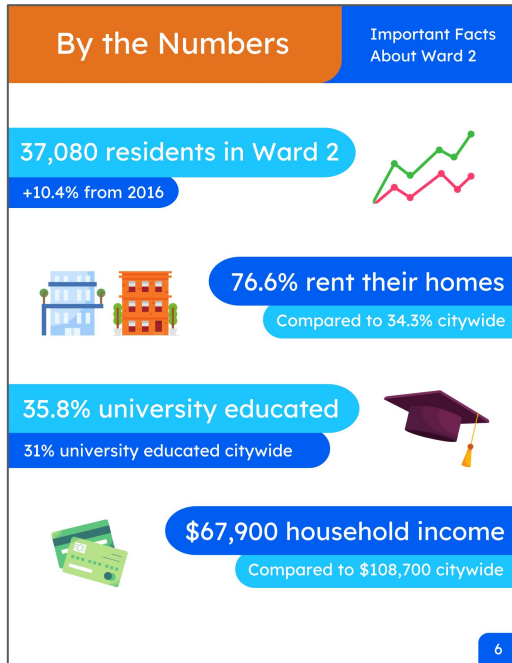
Ward 2 in Context

- In 2021, the Federal government conducted a detailed census which provides a number of important insights for Ward 2 residents about the makeup of our communities
- City staff broke this information down by Ward and neighbourhood so I could share it with the public

Ward 2 in Context



Ward 2 in Context



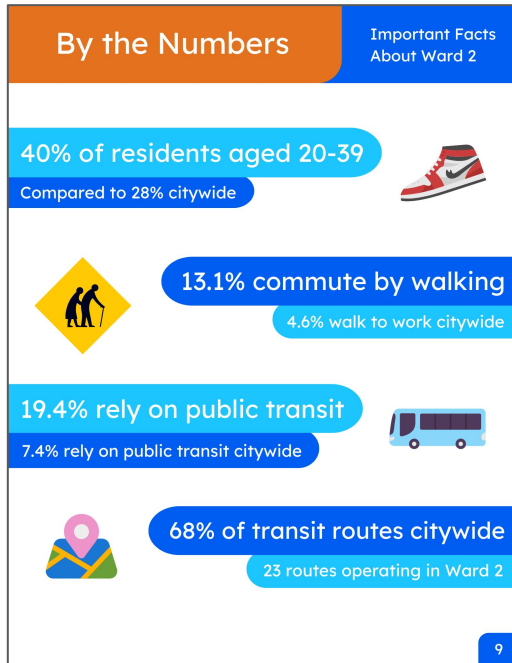
- Nearly 40,000 residents and businesses between Queen Street, Wellington Street, the Hamilton Harbour, and the escarpment
- 77% rent their home vs. 23% who own their home
- 36% are university educated compared to 31% citywide
- Average household income is \$67,900 compared to \$108,700 citywide

Ward 2 in Context



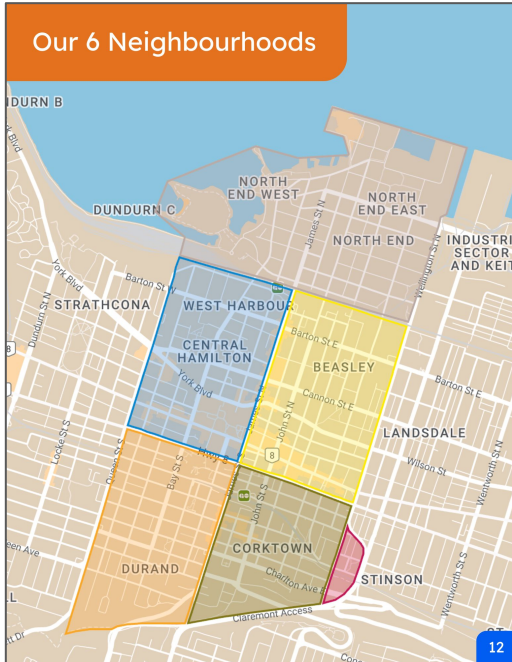
- 50% of couples have children compared to 63% citywide
- 1,914 CityHousing Hamilton units - 27% of all CHH units citywide
- Life expectancy of 72 years compared to 76 years citywide
- 24% of all building permits

Ward 2 in Context



- 40% of residents are aged 20-39 compared to 28% citywide
- 13.1% commute by walking compared to only 4.6% who walk to work citywide
- 19.4% rely on public transit compared to 7.4% citywide
- 68% of all transit routes (23 routes)

Ward 2 in Context



- Approximately 26% of Ward 2's population, or 9,765 residents are aged 55 and older
- Ward 2 tends to have a younger population with more households of 1 to 2 people when compared to the rest of the City
- 46% of Ward 2's seniors live in the Durand neighbourhood
- It's hotter in Ward 2 than in other parts of the city

Ward 2 in Context

- About 15% of Ward 2's population, or 5,510 residents are aged 65+
- About 26% of Ward 2's population, or 9,765 residents are aged 55+
- 46% of Ward 2's seniors 65+ live in the Durand neighbourhood
- 41% of Ward 2's seniors 55+ live in the Durand neighbourhood
- There are fewer seniors in Ward 2 than citywide
- There are more seniors who rent in Ward 2 than rent citywide
- More seniors with disabilities live in Ward 2 than citywide*

Ward 2 in Context

What does this mean for seniors in Ward 2?

- Seniors will experience heat impacts differently
- Seniors will have a harder time getting around
- Seniors will be isolated by major snow events
- Seniors will experience poverty and will be significantly impacted by cost of living increases (fixed incomes)
- Seniors will not always be able to connect digitally

Questions about
Ward 2?

Campaign Priorities for Seniors

Heat Impacts and Climate Change

- Commit to a minimum of 45% of urban forest canopy cover in the downtown core - Council approved 40%
- Implement mandatory Green Development Standards (GDS) for all new development - Green Building Standards approved in 2024
- Draft local tenant protection policies - Adequate Temperature Bylaw

Campaign Priorities for Seniors

Tenant Protections

- Draft local tenant protection policies - Renovictions Bylaw, Safe Apartments Bylaw, Property Standards Bylaw
- Implement local landlord licensing - Pilot in Wards 1 and 8 ending this year with the potential to expand citywide
- Coordinate CityHousing Hamilton and the City's Housing Services department - new CEO has helped to restructure the organization and make it more efficient (500 units back online)

Campaign Priorities for Seniors

Getting Around the Neighbourhood

- Audit roads, sidewalks, and other public spaces to ensure that they're hazard free and kept that way - Unprecedented program to repair sidewalks in this term (millions invested)
- Collaborate with neighbourhoods to redesign unsafe streets - Successful piloting of new street safety tracking to implement hundreds of future improvements; installation of traffic calming measures

Campaign Priorities for Seniors

Getting Around the Neighbourhood

- Increase the number of public washrooms, drinking fountains, and garbage cans - new drinking fountains being installed this year, new garbage cans installed annually, public washrooms opened at Corktown Park (more to come)
- Grow the Hamilton Bike Share fleet both east of Ottawa Street and on the Mountain - expansion approved at Council this month, still more work to do to reach the rest of the city

Campaign Priorities for Seniors

Better Communication and Service

- Increase the staffing complement in the Ward 2 office to 3 FTEs - hired third staff member, part time, in 2024
- Launch a dedicated 311 service for Hamilton - support for this in the last 3 budgets to improve the resident experience
- Expand free public wireless internet in the core - wifi coming to more Ward 2 parks in 2025 and 2026

Questions about
my campaign
priorities?

Dedicated Programming for Seniors

- **Healthy Active Aging** - drop in and registered programs at recreation centres
 - Adapted Yoga, Tai Chi, Fitness, Chair Fit, Strength, Balance, Cardio, Cards and Games, Pickleball, Waterfit, Crafts
- **Seniors' Centre Without Walls** - phone and virtual participation
- **Seniors Community Liaison Group** - replacing Seniors Advisory Committee in 2025 or 2026

Dedicated Programming for Seniors

- Main-Hess Activity Club
- YWCA Hamilton Active Living Centre - MacNab Street
- Central Memorial Recreation Centre



Questions about
programming for
seniors?

Questions?