


Ashley Bouman is a local community activist and disability advocate. She has been involved with PFLAG's Cobourg Chapter since 2014 as the Volunteer Events Coordinator. In 2016, she became Chapter Leader when the previous leader stepped down. In this role she facilitates a monthly support group, coordinates Pride events and festivities in Northumberland County for Pride Month, and other 2SLGBTQ+ events throughout the year while promoting community awareness and education of queer rights and advocacy.


At the moment she is a Director on three Boards; The Help and Legal Centre of Northumberland, Kawartha Sexual Assault Centre and Transition House. She is also a member of the Town of Cobourg's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee.

She has a Bachelor of Arts Honours degree in English Literature and Women's Studies from Trent University. She attended George Brown College in their Assaulted Women and Children's Counselling and Advocacy Program and became a licensed Paralegal in the province of Ontario in 2019.

She is the recipient of a Port Hope Civic Award in 2018 as a Committee Member of Take Back the Night Port Hope for her part in organizing Port Hope's first Take Back the Night rally in 2017. She was also recognised as a Go Northumberland Woman of Influence in 2020. She received a Town of Cobourg Civic Award in 2021 for her community advocacy work.

I would love to hear from you.  
Please feel free to contact me anytime.

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Read more about my background,  
community advocacy and platform on  
my website.

[www.ashleybouman.ca](http://www.ashleybouman.ca)

Follow my social media pages:

 Ashley Bouman For Cobourg Council

 @Ashley4Council

Voting Period  
October 14-24, 2022

Voting Day  
October 24, 2022 9am - 8pm

More information at  
[www.cobourgvotes.ca](http://www.cobourgvotes.ca)

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**ASHLEY  
BOUMAN**

For Cobourg Council

*Community voices matter*



*My platform focuses on  
increasing accessibility,  
environment & sustainability,  
attainable housing and equity,  
diversity and inclusion.*

**My platform focuses on increasing accessibility, environment & sustainability, attainable housing and equity, diversity and inclusion.**

### **Increasing Accessibility**

I am a person with an invisible disability. I have been a disability advocate for over a decade. It is important to me to make sure that Cobourg is accessible to everyone. The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) was created with the goal of having a completely accessible Ontario by 2025 (twenty years after it was enacted).

How does Cobourg measure up? Will we be able to meet the deadline? These are key issues that I will look into as a Councillor.

My goals for increasing accessibility will be creating more accessible spaces, making sure that there are adequate numbers of accessible public washrooms, public transit that is accessible to all those that rely on it, giving the disabled residents of Cobourg a bigger voice with assistance from the Accessibility & EDI Committees, and seeing what we can do as a municipality to offset the hardships of those that are relying on ODSP for monthly income.

### **Environment & Sustainability**

Municipalities are on the front-lines of climate change. Municipal governments are responsible for building resiliency, protecting residents from serious climate change events, and have a longstanding responsibility for protecting public health and environment through water stewardship. These are key issues that must be on the forefront of disaster mitigation for the future.

It is important that we start thinking now about the climate issues that will be happening in the future.

Global temperatures will continue to rise for many decades as well as many other changes in weather patterns such as dangerous heatwaves, severe storms and flooding.

Is Cobourg's infrastructure sound? How many tornado warnings did we have in our area this past spring and summer? Can we handle the devastating damage that a tornado, severe storm, or flooding would cause?

We need Local Climate Action Now.

### **Attainable Housing**

We are currently living in a housing crisis in Cobourg.

We are currently living in a rental crisis and are losing rental units at an alarming rate.

Affordable Housing is important, but the need for attainable housing is greater. We need accessible shelter now, not the months and years from now that it takes to build apartment complexes and houses.

Access to shelter is an immediate need that has very few resources in our community. Emergency shelter and transitional housing is severely lacking. Affordable rental rates and availability of legal rental units is virtually nonexistent.

Attainable Housing for All.

### **Equity, Diversity & Inclusion**

Everyone is welcome in Cobourg. I am very passionate about EDI work. Since its creation in early 2021, I have sat on the Town of Cobourg's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee as a community member. It was through this community advocacy work that introduced me to the realm of municipal politics.

I am excited to bring my experience and vision to my role of Town Councillor as an EDI expert.