

Vote Sara Gardinier for Cobourg Town Council!

Who is Sara Gardinier?

Sara is married to Jim Gardinier, grandson of Marie Hall who owned and operated AM Hall's Jewellers in Downtown Cobourg for many years. They have 3 children together. Sara has been living in Cobourg for the past 6 years with her family and has been working as a home care PSW since 2018. Before this, she worked from home as a medical transcriptionist. Sara grew up in Oshawa; however, that was not where she was born. She had always lived in cities until moving with Jim and their then 2-year-old son to Hastings, where they lived for 6 years. The problems Cobourg is currently experiencing are all the same problems Sara grew up watching happening in Oshawa but was helpless to do anything as a child. She does not want to see Cobourg deteriorate the same way.

What does Sara Gardinier stand for?

Working as a PSW has shown Sara many different aspects of life, and while she enjoys her career tremendously, it breaks her heart to see the elderly, the disabled, the struggling, the addicts and the displaced being left behind in our society. She wishes to be integral in changing this so that everyone feels valued and validated in Cobourg. She believes strongly that no one should be left behind.

What is Sara Gardinier's platform?

1. Re-evaluate the On Demand Transit system. It is currently not servicing many of the citizens, often cancelling buses or has no service available when people need it, who then either end up using cabs or cancelling their shifts because they can't get to work. Council needs to work with these citizens to find where improvements can be made and how.
2. Revamp the waterfront parking. After the new parking structure was rolled out, many citizens found it confusing; the times and the areas it applied and didn't apply to. Any home care worker (PSW, nurse, physical or occupational therapists) was not exempt or given a discount on the fee. A discounted fee needs to also be offered to seniors.
3. Accessibility. The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) is a provincial law that mandates businesses and organizations must follow standards to become more accessible for people with disabilities. This has been law since 2005 and the province wants to be fully accessible by 2025. Many businesses in Cobourg are not accessible, whether they have stairs and no ramps into their place of business, no automatic doors or automatic doors that never seem to be working. Council needs to work with the Accessibility Advisory Committee, businesses and organizations to bring Cobourg up to the AODA standard so every citizen can enjoy all that Cobourg has to offer.
4. Housing. There is not enough rent geared to income (RGI), low-income and affordable housing and is resulting in increased homelessness. This is not acceptable. While housing is a County issue, Cobourg council needs to work with citizens, both those experiencing homelessness and those struggling to keep a roof over their heads, to come up with ideas to present to the County council, such as turning Brookside into a pilot project for co-housing.
5. Drug Crisis. The pandemic brought with it a drug and mental health crisis like nothing Cobourg has ever seen before and it is only getting worse. Cobourg council needs to work with mental health experts and addictions counsellors on finding the best solutions to address this growing issue. Pressure needs to be put on the County council to advocate for funds from both Provincial and Federal governments to start programs and services designed to help the addicted population, including a harm reduction/safe injection site.

Vote Sara Gardinier for Cobourg Town Council so no one gets left behind.

It's time to do better.

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