



2018 Election Questionnaire

Question One:

Why is heritage important to you personally? Why do you believe that heritage is important to the city at large? In your role as Councillor, what steps would you take to ensure heritage remains a key part of the discussion at the City and community?

Question Two:

What do you think is the single most important thing that should be done to support our local heritage and why? How do you see your role impacting this initiative?

Question Three:

Do you think it's important to recognize we are on the ancestral territory of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation in some tangible way, such as flying their flag at City Hall? What other ways do you see us doing so?

Councillor				
Ward 7	Name			
Candidate	Andrew Gassmann	I want the next generation to have the best opportunity to understand our history, which includes learning from more than books. The preservation of spaces and artifacts helps bring history to life. Heritage is important to the city at large as it serves to bring people together; people feel connected when they share a history. As councillor, I would champion education and the opportunity for consultation to ensure that heritage remains a key part of the discussion at the city and community.	By supporting educational initiatives, particularly for children and youth, we can support our local heritage. Educational initiatives ensure that children and youth have an understanding and respect for local heritage, as well as a desire to preserve and share it. Camps and events at the Bradley Museum, as well as the Heritage Resource Centre, are but a few such examples.	It is important to ensure that any recognition of the fact that we are on the ancestral territory of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation is meaningful to that First Nation. Consultation with their representatives to see what would be meaningful to them would be appropriate. Educational initiatives for children and youth to ensure that they understand the role and contributions of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation could also be a good form of recognition.
Candidate	Leslie Moss	As the descendant of Slaves brought to The Bahamas, I know nothing of my heritage prior to that. I am therefore committed to safeguarding Mississauga's heritage as I seek as much of my own. Mississauga has a rich heritage, that is evolving with the ever-increasing diversity of the City. It is vital that we all know the heritage that gave us the City we all enjoy today. I am running as an Independent candidate, with a focus on the individual and community. I believe strongly in heritage and culture and would work with individual residents, grass-root and community-based organizations, educational institutions and the like towards this common goal.	Beyond a shadow of a doubt, it MUST start with the City. Then, we engage residents at the grass-root level and build from there. The single most important thing is embracing the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission at the municipal level. Why? It is the way forward for all. I have made the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action an integral part of my campaign (see attached PowerPoint presentation) and promise to the voter post-election. I will put a great deal of energy and effort into this crucial initiative.	It took the City until July, 2017, to finally recognize ancestral territory at the beginning of Council meetings. Shame! Mississauga should be a leading City across Canada when it comes to reconciliation and matters of Indigenous and First Nations relations. I am participating in a Reading Group at Central Library, covering the Summary Report from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. I was shocked to learn, that, unlike other Cities, Mississauga has not taken a position on the Calls to Action. Truly, we need to reach out to First Nations and Indigenous communities and engage them in the process. We must be careful not to do so WITHOUT engaging ALL parties beforehand. Lest we revert to repeating the errors of the past.

Candidate

Leeann Cole

Heritage is important to me personally for several reasons. First, my parents feel welcome and accepted in their community by having immigrants and cultural pieces across the city from Poland and Ireland and England specifically. I personally feel a sense of belonging in my community because not only are my parts of heritage welcomed, displayed and celebrated through all our many events, but because I feel that so many other people from different cultures have a chance to bond and develop relationships within our city during these events and community gatherings. An example is Italfest and Muslimfest at Celebration Square. What a massive turnout! How connected so many of the attendees felt during these celebrations. Heritage is important to me because it gives community members a sense of pride and knowledge of how we originated and how the community grew to be what it is today. An example of this is Mississauga's Britannia Schoolhouse which was originally built in 1852 as a one room schoolhouse. This schoolhouse captures so much history from this time period and is very well known in our community.

As city councillor, it would be my pleasure to ensure that heritage sites through ward 7 are maintained and kept in ideal shape as they represent such a large cultural piece to the city. My hope is to create more cultural and heritage pieces as time goes on and as more artifacts become available. I think its extremely important to have these pieces within our city as a learning base from a historical point in time as well as a serving piece to our foundation as a city and a community. To me, a city with no culture and no history would feel ultimately like a "dead" and "unconnected" city.

I think the single most important thing that should be done to support our local heritage would be for me to support our local supporters. If our heritage foundation as well as awareness of our heritage community-wide is supported by organizations and individuals within the community, our ability to draw attention to and keep many heritage pieces and cultural presence within our community is increased. My role impacts this initiative in supporting new issues/ideas/potential cultural landmarks and historical pieces at the council meeting level. However, supporting our community-based supporters for ongoing community projects is imperative. Ensuring our supporters have access to city counsellors in order for current concerns and ideas to be shared is essential. Our supporters, namely the financial assistance of the City of Mississauga , The Hazel McCallion Fund for Arts, Heritage and Culture, The Hazel McCallion Foundation for Arts, Culture and Heritage, ArtsBuild Ontario, TD, ArtsVest, the Department of Canadian Heritage, The Heritage Canada Foundation, Canada Summer Jobs, the Ministry of Culture, Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board and Peel School Board, all work to keep our heritage and culture alive in our growing city. Building awareness within Mississauga starts with us and there needs to be ongoing support so that we can keep Mississauga a diverse and culturally educated city.

I think it is extremely important that we as a city recognize we are on the ancestral territory of the Mississaugas of the new Credit First Nations in ways such as: at the beginning of city council meetings, the speaker can acknowledge the meeting space as being the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of New Credit First Nation, flying their flag at City Hall as well as outside Sheridan College – Hazel McCallion Campus and University of Toronto Mississauga Campus. I think integrating many First Nation studies and services into our schools is very important.

Trustee

Ward 7

N/A