






Candidate Ed Corrigan

London – Councillor – Ward 9

1. How would you define poverty? Please select all that apply.

Response	Chart	Count
Lacking the resources to meet one’s physical needs for survival (e.g., lacking shelter, food and clothing)		1
Lacking the resources to fully participate in social and recreational opportunities in the community		1
Lacking enough resources to be self-sufficient		1
I don’t know		0
Other (please specify)		0

2. What do you think are the 3 most important actions City Council can take to help reduce poverty in London?

Practically speaking London City Council has limited ability to reduce poverty in London but they should try their best to help reduce poverty. Here are three specific ideas. Support the London Hydro program to assist low income Londoners to heat their homes in Winter. Help create an environment that will create jobs and stimulate economic growth. Lobby the Province to provide adequate levels of support for those in need and on Social Assistance and ODSP.

3. In your opinion, rate each of the following on their responsibility to reduce poverty. Please select one response for each item below.

	No Responsibility	Some Responsibility	A Lot of Responsibility	Don't Know
Charitable Organizations and Not-for-Profits	0	0	1	0
General Public NOT Living in Poverty	0	0	1	0
General Public Living in Poverty	0	1	0	0
Private Business	0	1	0	0
Municipal Government	0	0	1	0
Provincial Government	0	0	1	0
Federal Government	0	0	1	0

4. Based on the review of the evidence, there are a number of different roles municipal government could play in poverty reduction. Read each of the statements below and state whether or not you think London City Council should play that role.

	Yes	No	Don't Know
Attractor of new businesses to the City of London, including tax incentives and programs and policies that support new business growth	1	0	0
Connector of organizations and partners from various sectors to work together on poverty reduction	1	0	0
Exemplary employer, including implementing employment practices that reduce poverty and providing a living wage to internal staff and outsourced services	1	0	0
Investor in community programs and processes that support poverty reduction	1	0	0
Leader and champion for community based poverty reduction initiatives, including raising community awareness about poverty and advocating to the federal and provincial levels of government	1	0	0
Provider of services that support local business development, job skills and training	1	0	0
Provider of social services that help reduce poverty, such as child care, social assistance, arts and recreation	1	0	0

5. Based on the review of the evidence, municipal governments across Canada are taking various steps to assist in poverty reduction including:

Affordable housing strategies which identify the ways in which the municipality will assist with housing affordability

Affordable transit programs and services to increase residents' ability to participate in employment, attend important medical and other appointments, and participate fully in community life

Affordable library services to support literacy, skill building and access to technology

Food policy councils to support a variety of community food initiatives and promote a healthy sustainable and accessible food system for all

Housing First Policy, an approach to ending homelessness that involves giving people direct access to permanent housing, along with the services they need and want to maintain it

Sports, recreation and other leisure activity access to promote inclusion and are associated with an enhanced quality of life through gaining new skills and improved physical and psychological well-being

Free income tax clinics to help residents access the tax credits available to them

a) If elected, would you support the implementation of any of the following public policies and programs in London? Please select one response for each item below.

	Yes	No	Don't Know
Affordable housing strategy	1	0	0
Affordable library services	1	0	0
Affordable transit programs and services	1	0	0
Food policy council	1	0	0
Housing First Policy	1	0	0
Discounted supplies for municipal recreation, arts and culture programs	1	0	0
Discounted registration/admission for municipal recreation, arts and culture programs	1	0	0
Free income tax clinics	1	0	0

b) Please list below any other public policies or programs related to poverty reduction that you would support in London.

Expand Affordable housing and provide increased levels of support for organizations that help the homeless and others requiring social assistance. I would also support raising the amount of money that people are allowed to make before it is deducted from their Social Assistance.

6. London has an affordable housing reserve fund. The fund was developed to help create additional affordable housing units. How should the affordable housing reserve fund be used?

To build more affordable housing in conjunction with the Provincial and Federal Governments. Also to work with organizations Co-Ops, CHMC etc that build affordable housing.

7. Nutrition-related diseases (e.g., diabetes, heart disease, certain cancers) cost London and Ontario millions of dollars annually. Low income residents can't afford to eat a healthy diet, once housing and other essential bills are paid. What do you think London City Council could do to increase access to and availability of healthy foods?

There is public space being made available for growing your own food. Increase funding for programs to help educate people about the risks of not eating healthy. Use our library system to distribute information on eating healthy. Lobby the province for financial support for educational programs in our schools, Programs by the London Middlesex Health Unit. Distribute such information via London Social Workers, our cheque distribution system and also through the schools. If a proper education system is put in place there would be significant cost savings in the Medical area and in other areas as well. Provide support to London's food banks and help them obtain donations of healthy food to be given to those in need. I would be open to other ideas on how to promote healthy living. However, much of this area where work is required is outside the jurisdiction of municipalities and is provincial jurisdiction and some federal responsibility.

8. Children in low-income families have significantly more psychosocial difficulties than other children, including more mental and physical health problems, academic troubles and behavioural issues. Quality early childhood interventions have been shown to improve performance in school, lessen the learning risks associated with low income and enhance parents’ childrearing and coping skills.

a) If elected, would you support the implementation of any of the following initiatives in London? Please select one response for each item below.

	Yes	No	Don't Know
Advocacy to the Provincial and Federal levels of government for the development of supportive public policy	1	0	0
Educating parents/caregivers about available subsidies and programs (e.g., tax benefits, Canada Learning Bond)	1	0	0
Financial assistance for child care	1	0	0
Funding of community programs and services that support early child development	1	0	0
Leading and/or participating in the development of a community plan for children and youth	1	0	0
Providing centralized intake to licensed child care centres	1	0	0

b) Please list below any other initiatives related to poverty reduction that you would support the implementation of in London.

Support Provincial initiatives in expanding early childhood education. Use our library system to augment early childhood programming. I would be open to other good suggestions.

9. Is there anything else that you would like to add? Please provide any additional comments, opinions or ideas that you would like to share.

I was married to a child psychiatrist and had significant exposure to the problems of inadequate support and assistance for children. This exposure has helped me understand the need for early intervention and the need for adequate support for children and mothers. I believe that these sort of investments will greatly help children and save significant dollars later if they are ignored when we can help prevent some of these problems at the early stages of life.