

# Christina Hunter

Councillor Candidate in Gravenhurst, Ward 5  
Muskoka Region

*The following answers were provided by the candidate in response to [a letter sent by the Toronto Society of Architects on September 20, 2022](#) outlining three questions related to issues of the built environment. Answers have been copied and pasted into this page for clarity and ease of access, but all answers are verbatim and no changes or edits have been made.*

**Q1: Housing is a fundamental human right, and yet an increasing number of residents across the Greater Toronto Area are struggling to pay rent or find an affordable place to live. What policies and actions do you believe need to be implemented to address this crisis?**

**A:** The housing crisis needs all levels of government to work together to solve. We need to look for opportunities to partner with other levels of Government to create high density affordable housing as well as incentivizing use of vacant or underutilized buildings.

**Q2: The design, construction and operation of our built environment accounts for nearly 40% of energy related carbon emissions, contributing to the ongoing climate crisis affecting us today. What do you believe needs to be prioritised to reduce carbon emissions within the built environment?**

**A:** Opportunities for retrofitting / increasing building efficiencies, new builds must keep as much green space as possible , development plans need to include walking / biking trails to connect to the urban centres.

**Q3: In towns and cities, so much of life happens in the shared public spaces—in our parks, libraries and streets. How can we ensure these civic spaces achieve design excellence in their initial conception and construction, and that they are properly maintained so they may continue to serve future generations?**

**A:** Sustainable vision is the key to ensuring our future generations are able to enjoy the same benefits and opportunities that we share today. We want our public spaces to be inviting and immersed with the environment that surrounds them, adding unique local attributes that connect the people with the places they inhabit.