

Arts Culture and Heritage

Dean is proud to live in a city that is rich in arts & culture. The pandemic has hit this sector of our economy particularly hard. Dean has supported the Arts Alive fund, moved an additional 25k be added to the Public Art fund earmarked for local arts only. Helped negotiate stable funding for EC3 as well as other arts and culture organizations. Made certain that funding was not cut during the lock down. Co-authored the motion to establish a 40k per year grant program for individual artists. Dean supported the establishment and hiring of the city's first Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer. On March 7th. Dean moved to direct city staff to assist any partner agencies with the any humanitarian needs that may arise from the war in Ukraine.

As a Town ward councillor, Dean knows that we are at the heart of the city. Peterborough's vibrant and engaging arts & culture community must be supported. Dean will continue to champion the cultural sector at City Council.

Housing, Homelessness and Addictions

Dean believes that the opioid crisis, homelessness, and all addictions are the most import issues facing the not only Peterborough, but the entire province and county. All levels of government and all agencies need to work together to establish a National and Provincial strategy to assist people in need. Dean has authored or co-authored several motions to add tools to the toolbox. Some of these are:

Sept 14th 2020 a Motion to ask the Province for 'Crisis Beds and a Detox Facility'

Oct 11th 2021 Letter of support for a Detox Centre in Lindsay at Ross Memorial in partnership with Canadian Mental Health

Nov 29th 2021 That half the Police surplus be directed to opioid addiction programs

Dec 6th 2021 That staff report on a 'blueprint to help cope with opioid overdoses and have a long term strategy

March 8th 2022 That the City of Peterborough fund a 'Systems Navigator' to help fight the Opioid Crisis

May 9th 2022 That the City partner with Canadian Mental Health to fund Crisis Intervention Teams to assist with getting Mental Health work on the street to help people suffering with addictions

Strengthening of the Central Area

Over the next decade the intensification and ongoing development of the city must be handled with great care. As the city grows, the impact on existing neighborhoods must have vision, inclusiveness and proceed with a 'smart city' approach. The development of neighborhood plans must continue. These are plans that lay out a 'road map' for how an existing neighborhood will meet the demands and pressures associated with an expanding vibrant city. As a lifelong resident and as a person who is invested in Peterborough, Dean understands these challenges and has the knowledge and leadership to work with the community to the benefit of all.

Transportation

With the adoption of the new Transportation Master Plan or TMP, a plan he asked for on June 19th of 2019 and was adopted on March 14, 2022, Dean believes City Council will have very important choices to make as it guides the city through the fledgling first steps of the TMP. Mode shifts will have to be addressed. Alternate forms of transportation will need to be expanded and explored. Dean supported the adoption of the Cycling Master Plan on March 10th 2022. Transit will need to be examined closely to better understand its needs. To this end on Feb 7th 2022 Dean co-authored a motion with Chair of Transportation, Don Vassiliadis, to ask for the establishment of a Transit Riders Association.

Environment

The climate crisis is one of the major issues facing our society. As the city moves forward, it must keep these thoughts at the forefront of our plans. The new Official Plan or OP, adopted Nov 29th 2021, has some vital targets in it that must be met and adhered to. Along with the targets in the new TMP and the adoption of new innovated technologies, Dean believes the city is up to the challenge. He supported the hiring of environmental staff to combat climate change. Dean has moved the conversion of the city fleet to non-carbon based fuels on Sept 6th 2021. On the same night he also moved that staff report back on an incentive program to promote tree planting on private property. On June 14 2021 Dean supported Councillor Don Vassiliadis's motion to use Peterborough as a test site for Canadian made electric cars. As part of the public engagement process, Dean lead the idea of home energy grants now being explored.