

ELECT ANTHONY FRISINA

To My Family, Friends, and Neighbours in Ward 8, Hamilton,

I am proud to officially launch my campaign to represent Ward 8 with integrity, dignity, and a vision for a stronger, more inclusive Hamilton. My commitment is to listen to the concerns of our community, amplify your voices at City Hall, and work toward sustainable solutions that enhance the quality of life for all.

For the majority of my 45 years, I have been a resident of Ward 8. My passion lies in accessibility awareness and inclusion, not only in our ward but across the City of Hamilton. Born with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus, I have never shied away from a challenge. I believe that accessibility and inclusion mean creating a city where everyone, regardless of ability, has the opportunity to thrive. In a city where diversity is our strength, it is more important than ever that our leadership reflects that strength.

A Life of Advocacy and Community Leadership

I have spent my career advocating for a more inclusive society. As the host and producer of *Above & Beyond – Bridging the Gap to Accessibility and Inclusion* on Cable 14, I have had the privilege of interviewing inspiring leaders within the disability community. My work as an author, actor, speaker, and consultant, along with my employment at Mohawk College and McMaster University, has allowed me to cultivate positive change in many spaces.

In addition to my professional pursuits, I proudly serve on several boards and advocate through groups like All Abilities Allstars, Director of Media Relations for the Ontario Disability Coalition, Hamilton Accessible Sports Council, The Forward Movement, Rygiel Supports for Community Living, Treat Accessibly, Mohawk Sports Park, Sport Hamilton, Cheer squad member at The Ron Joyce Children's Health Centre and an Ambassador for A Chance to Dance. My journey has been shaped by my education at Mohawk College in Enterprise Business and Office Administration Executive, and I am proud to have been named an Alumni of Distinction at Mohawk College in 2013. In 2020, I was named to the Order of Hamilton.

These experiences have solidified my commitment to breaking down barriers, fostering inclusivity, and ensuring that every Hamiltonian can participate fully in our community.

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A Vision for Ward 8 and Hamilton

Hamilton needs leadership that stands alongside the community. We must move away from short-term fixes and take a holistic approach to governance that ensures sustainable, long-term solutions. My vision includes:

- **Safe and Accessible Transportation:** We must address the inadequacies of accessible cabs, public transit, and paratransit services to meet the needs of all residents, including seniors and individuals with disabilities. A strengths-based approach is needed to ensure transportation equity across the city.
- **Roadway and Pedestrian Safety:** Investing in well-maintained roads, safer intersections, and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure will create a more livable and accessible city for everyone. We must ensure money is available when repairs are necessary, rather than when it's their turn
- **Public Washrooms in Open Spaces:** The pandemic highlighted the need for accessible washroom facilities along trails and public spaces, benefiting all residents, including transit and paratransit operators.
- **Affordable and Accessible Housing:** As the cost of living rises, we must take urgent action to expand affordable and accessible housing options to meet the growing needs of Hamiltonians.
- **Accountability in City Spending:** Taxpayer money must be used effectively. Too often, resources are wasted due to poor planning and costly do-overs. I am committed to ensuring fiscal responsibility and strategic investment in our city's future.
- **Inclusive Recreation and Parks:** The current administration has planned an accessible swing for Ward 8 this summer—an initiative I wholeheartedly support. However, we need to ensure that accessible play structures and recreational opportunities exist in all parks citywide.
- **Inclusive Policy Making - We must create policies that are inclusive and ensure decisions are made at the table in advance, adopting an enhanced approach to diversity.** Having voices heard and implementing action plans from the start to reduce retrofit.

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Building a City That Works for Everyone

Representation matters. I will be a voice for those who often go unheard. My goal is not only to be present at the decision-making table but to ensure that every resident of Ward 8 is heard and valued. Leadership is about accountability—demonstrating it first and then expecting it from others.

I believe in transparency and open communication. I will be accessible to all residents through in-person meetings, social media, and digital platforms. Your concerns are my priorities, and together, we can drive meaningful change.

Hamilton's strength lies in its people. When we focus on inclusion, our entire community prospers. This is about creating opportunities, not just for some, but for everyone. The work ahead will not be easy, but I am ready to take on this challenge with you.

Hamilton deserves leadership that listens, acts, and delivers real results. Let's build a future that reflects our shared values and aspirations. I look forward to engaging with you, hearing your ideas, and working together to create a Hamilton that truly works for all.

I feel I would be the ideal candidate to represent Ward 8 in Hamilton for the reasons listed above. If elected, I will utilize every resource within my purview and power to ensure we exceed the needs of Ward 8 residents and the City Hamilton.

**If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, take others with you.
Let's go far—together.**

With love and kindness, always

Anthony Frisina

"Where there's a win for accessibility and inclusion, there's a win for everyone."

~ **Anthony Frisina**

Candidate for Ward 8, Hamilton City Council



AnthonyForWard8



Ward8AnthonyHam



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