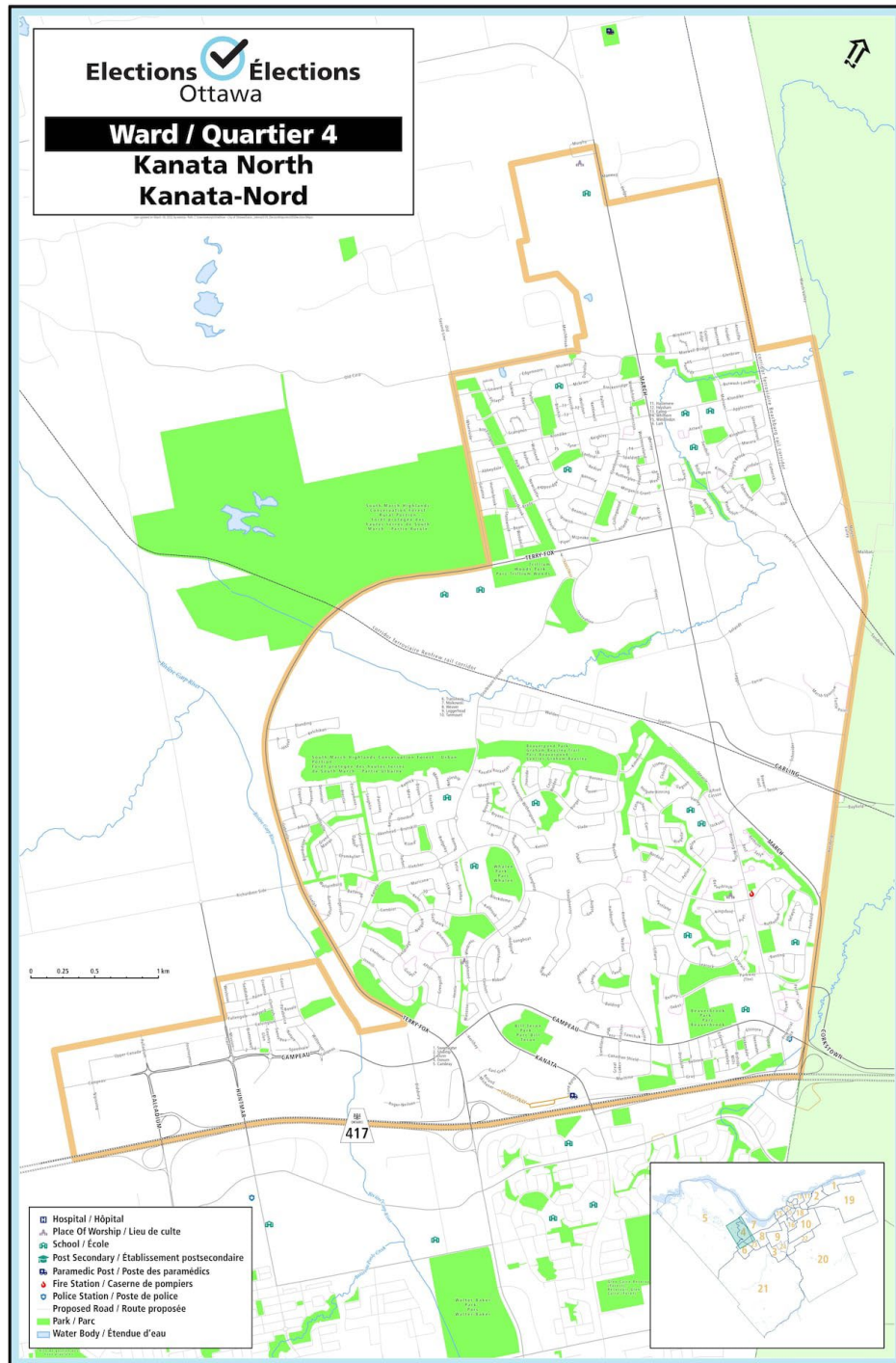


WARD 4

Kanata North





Cathy Curry • INCUMBENT

Candidate for City Council • Ward 4 — Kanata North

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PUBLIC RECORD HIGHLIGHTS

Previous Federation survey (2022): [In the 2022 Jewish Federation questionnaire](#), Curry supported municipal antisemitism training, police protection for Jewish institutions, continued funding for the OPS Hate Crimes Unit and adoption of the IHRA definition.

Bubble bylaw vote (2026): [Voted in favour of the April 22, 2026 Council motion](#) approving the Safe Access to Social Infrastructure By-law.

1) What role can the City play to push back against antisemitism and the violent forms of antizionism so Jewish residents can live safely and openly in Ottawa?

I have spent most of my working life with young people, as a high school English teacher, a school board trustee, and now a psychotherapist who works mostly with teenagers and young adults. I take safety seriously as it is foundational for learning and health. Parents and young people in our community have told me about Jewish students being insulted and called names at school and online. Less than two weeks ago, a gunman opened fire on a synagogue in Belleville while families were gathered for Yom Kippur, and only the courage of police officers prevented a massacre. That may have taken place two hours away, but Jewish families in Ottawa felt it the moment they heard.

In my opinion, the City's role is practical. It should enforce its own bylaws consistently, protect access to places of worship, schools and community centres, and fund additional security if necessary, where there are higher risks. I feel that we all need to remember that Jewish residents are Ottawa residents. All Ottawa residents need to be safe and visible as we celebrate the multicultural nature of our City. We cannot see Jewish people as a group related to a controversy that has to be “managed.” City leaders should also call antisemitism what it is, plainly and quickly, including when it shows up as hostility toward Jewish Canadians for their real or perceived connection to Israel. Canadians can debate foreign policy. Holding a Jewish neighbour responsible for a foreign government is wrong. And, it can too easily become antisemitism.

2) Ottawa has seen violent demonstrations where participants have expressed support for terrorist organizations and celebrated the October 7 attacks. What

steps should the City take when events on public property cross the line into intimidation, hate, support for terrorism or threats to public safety?

The line is clear, but not well understood by all. Municipal governments have to ensure everyone is clear about where the line is and then ensure the City and Police have the tools to hold it. To be clear, peaceful protest is a Charter right, and we need to defend that right. However, glorifying terrorism, celebrating the murder of civilians, threatening people, or blocking people from their place of worship is not protest. When events on public property cross that line, the City should enforce its permitting and bylaw conditions, decline to grant future permits to organizers who have broken them, and make sure police have the resources and clear policy direction to act. The Vulnerable Infrastructure/Safe Access By-law was an attempt to ensure safe access to schools, hospitals and places of worship. I supported that by-law.

As a member of the Ottawa Police Services Board, I want to be precise about my role. Under the Community Safety and Policing Act, the Board sets policy and budget. It does not direct officers on specific operations, and it shouldn't. Through the Board, I have pushed for clear, consistent standards. Residents should be able to predict how hate and intimidation will be handled, and those standards should apply the same way no matter who is protesting or who is being targeted. Consistency is what builds trust in policing, and it is what Jewish residents have told me they haven't always seen.

3) Will you work with the Jewish Federation of Ottawa to better equip municipal agencies, programs and civic institutions to recognize, prevent and respond effectively to antisemitism? Please share how you will accomplish this.

Yes.

Specifically, I would support antisemitism awareness training for front-line City staff who work in our community centres, in recreation, libraries and by-law. Again, this training should be developed with the JFO so it reflects what Jewish residents actually experience rather than be created as a generic training module. I would also support regular check-ins between the JFO, City staff and Ottawa Police so that concerns are raised and tracked before they become incidents. And, when I hear about a problem in a City facility or program, I will follow up directly and personally, which is how I handle every file in my ward.

My own connection to this community is long-standing. My mother grew up in Toronto among Jewish neighbours. As a teenager, I worked as a counsellor at a Jewish summer camp, and those summers shaped me. I also meet regularly with Muslim community leaders in Kanata North. I mention that because I think it matters; I can sit with people who are hurting on different sides of this, listen honestly, and still be completely clear that antisemitism has no place in our city. That's the kind of councillor I have tried to be, and I plan to continue to do this.

4) Will you oppose efforts to bring international political campaigns, including BDS measures targeting Israel, into city politics?

Yes.

City Council's job is transit, housing, roads, parks and public safety, and we have more than enough of that to do. I don't believe municipal procurement, investments, partnerships or Council motions should be used to take sides in international conflicts. The practical reason is that it divides residents who all need the City to serve them equally. In Kanata North, it would also directly affect our Tech Park, where more than 800 companies, some of them Israeli, employ people from all over the world who work side by side every day. That's the Ottawa I want to protect.



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Did not reply to survey.



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