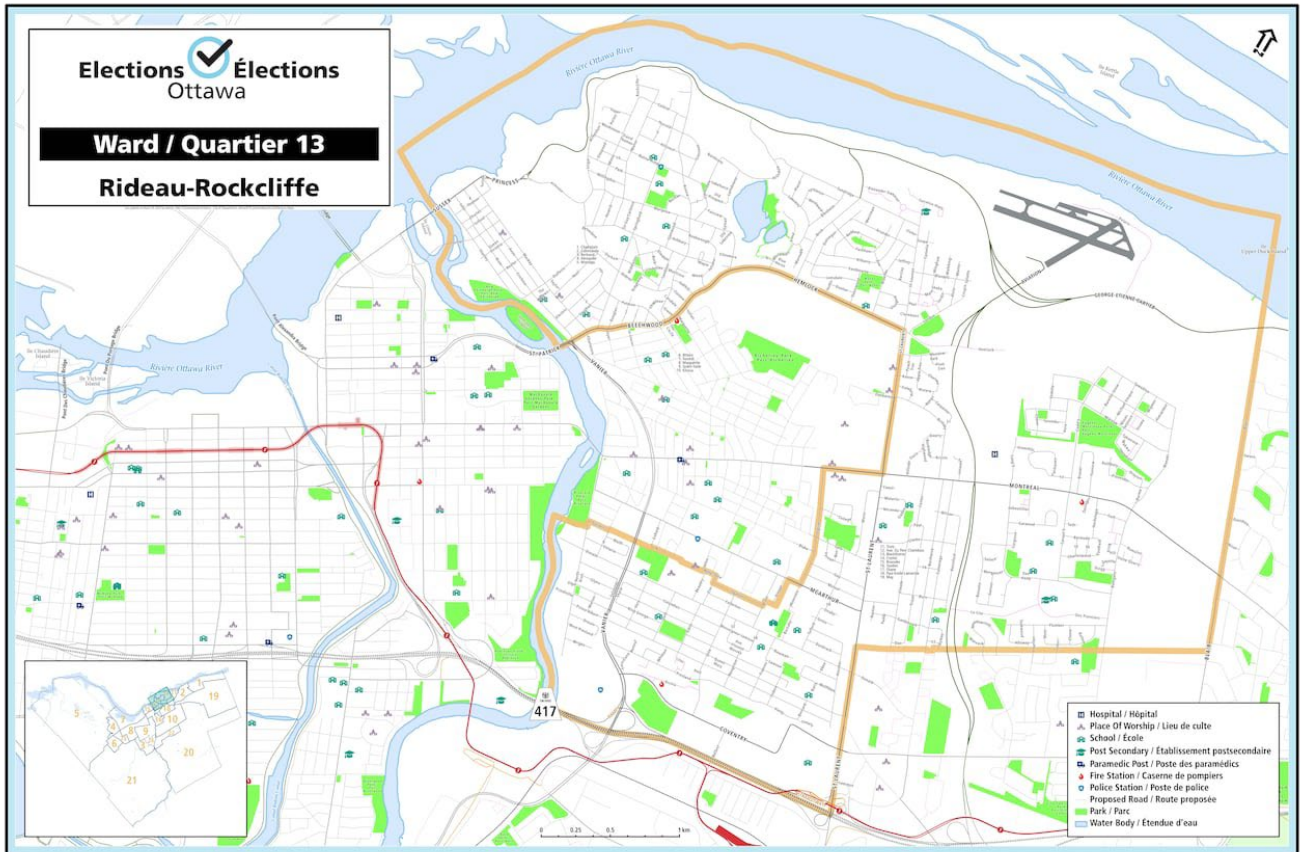


WARD 14

Somerset



5 candidate(s)



Robert Dekker

Candidate for City Council • Ward 14 — Somerset

Email: info@robertdekker.ca

Website: <https://robertdekker.ca>

- 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?*

The city can and should promote values preventing antisemitism and anti-hate against any community in Somerset Ward and within the City of Ottawa. The city should use peaceful security measures to protect citizens practicing their right to gather and demonstrate peacefully.

- 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 city of Ottawa should refrain from any displays of antisemitism, hate and intimidation being flown or posted at City Hall including flags of countries that promote or engage in hateful activities. The flags of Canada, Ontario and the City of Ottawa, the Algonquin Anishinabeg Nation Tribal Council Flag, the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation Flag and the Franco-Ontarian Flag should be the only six permanent flags flown at City Hall. Other flags should follow City of Ottawa protocol.

- 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.*

I will gladly work with the leadership of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa and Jewish community members. I will participate in dialogue and community engagement to promote peaceful gatherings among all residents in Somerset Ward and the City of Ottawa. I will work to ensure the values peaceful demonstrations and antisemitism and all anti-hate measures and included in all business conducted at City Hall and in the City of Ottawa.

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

Yes, I will oppose all efforts to bring international campaigns to Ottawa City Hall and City Hall politics.



Ariel Troster • INCUMBENT

Candidate for City Council • Ward 14 — Somerset

Email: info@troster2026.ca

Website: <https://www.arieltroster.com>

Current City profile: [Ottawa.ca](https://ottawa.ca)

PUBLIC RECORD HIGHLIGHTS

Antisemitism motion (2023): [Troster introduced a successful January 25, 2023 motion](#) denouncing antisemitism and directing that the city's diversity and anti-racism training programs explicitly incorporate education regarding antisemitism.

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

Gaza genocide claim (2023): [In an Instagram post](#), Troster said, "As a Jew and as a parent, I believe that it's my moral obligation to speak out against the forced starvation and genocide in Gaza."

Did not reply to survey.



Dillon Anderson

Candidate for City Council • Ward 14 — Somerset

Email: dillon2003@hotmail.ca

Website: <https://votedillon.ca/>

- 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?*

The City of Ottawa must be unequivocal: antisemitism and hatred in any form have no place in our community. City Hall must lead by example through clear, proactive leadership—adopting and applying robust anti-hate frameworks, ensuring zero tolerance for discrimination in municipal spaces, and actively partnering with community groups to call out hate. Jewish residents deserve to live, work, and raise their families openly and safely without fear of intimidation or hostility.

- 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?*

Public property is for everyone, but the right to protest does not include the right to intimidate, harass, incite violence, or celebrate terrorist acts. The City, in close coordination with the Ottawa Police Service, must take a zero-tolerance approach when demonstrations cross into hate speech or public safety threats. We must enforce municipal bylaws rigorously, ensure rapid intervention against unlawful behavior or hate symbols, and guarantee that public spaces remain safe and welcoming for all residents.

- 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, absolutely. I am fully committed to working directly with the Jewish Federation of Ottawa and security partners like CIJA. To accomplish this, I will advocate for regular municipal staff training on recognizing contemporary antisemitism, support community safety grant programs for vulnerable cultural and religious institutions, and establish open lines of communication so civic agencies can prevent and respond effectively to hate incidents in our neighborhoods.

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

Yes, I oppose bringing divisive international geopolitical campaigns, including BDS measures, into municipal government. City Council was elected to focus on local core services, housing, transit, fiscal discipline, and community safety—not to wade into foreign conflicts that fracture our local social fabric. Bringing such measures into municipal politics only stokes local division and alienates residents who deserve to feel fully included and secure in their own city.



Michael Tay

Candidate for City Council • Ward 14 — Somerset

Email: michaeltaycommunity@gmail.com

Website: <https://michaeltay.ca>

- 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?*

The City has an important responsibility to ensure Jewish residents can live, participate and gather safely in Ottawa.

Through my work with Together Against Hate and the Community Equity Council, I have seen the importance of responding early and clearly when communities are being targeted. In social services and victim-focused work, I have also seen how hate and intimidation can have lasting impacts on individuals and entire communities, even when incidents do not rise to the level of physical violence.

The City should support prevention, education, reporting and appropriate enforcement, while being clear that there is a difference between legitimate political expression and conduct that targets, intimidates or threatens Jewish residents. Municipal leaders also have a responsibility to speak up when communities are being excluded or made to feel unsafe.

- 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?*

Peaceful protest and political expression are important democratic rights and should be protected.

At the same time, there must be accountability when conduct crosses the line into threats, harassment, violence, intimidation or other unlawful behaviour. That is where the City, Ottawa Police and other appropriate authorities need to respond consistently and enforce the law.

My approach is compassion with accountability: people have the right to express difficult or controversial views peacefully, but that does not remove responsibility when conduct threatens the safety or rights of others. Enforcement should be based on actions and the law, not simply on whether speech is unpopular or offensive.

- 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.

I would be pleased to work with the Jewish Federation of Ottawa and other community partners on improving how the City recognizes, prevents and responds to antisemitism.

I have already been involved in this kind of work through Together Against Hate and the Community Equity Council, where I have worked with others to address hate, equity and the experiences of communities that feel targeted or excluded.

I believe the most effective approach is to bring affected communities, municipal institutions, service providers and public-safety partners to the table. That can include education and training, clearer reporting and response processes, and ensuring municipal institutions better understand the real impacts that hate and intimidation have on communities.

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

Yes.

I believe City Council should remain focused on matters within its municipal responsibilities and on serving the residents of Ottawa.

I would oppose efforts to use City policy, procurement or other municipal tools to advance international political campaigns such as BDS targeting Israel. Municipal decisions should be based on Ottawa's needs, applicable law, human rights obligations and the public interest, rather than using City Hall as a forum for international political campaigns.



Nicholas Gollé

Candidate for City Council • Ward 14 — Somerset

Email: nicholasgolle@nicholasgolle4somersetward.ca

Website: <https://nicholasgolle4somersetward.ca>

- 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 care about Jewish residents being able to live safely and openly in Ottawa, and I would speak up against antisemitism. Existing responsibilities need to translate into action when people report threats, intimidation, or exclusion. Reports need to be taken seriously, with the appropriate authorities enforcing the law and the City acting within its responsibilities. As a councillor, I would push for that follow-through, including clear communication about how concerns are being addressed. People should not be left wondering whether anyone listened. If Jewish residents are raising concerns that the current solutions are not working, we need to listen, they need to know they are being heard, and we need to show that we are taking those concerns seriously where we can act.

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?*

When people break the law, it needs to be enforced by the appropriate authorities. That includes unlawful threats, violence and hate directed at Jewish residents during demonstrations. The City should follow through on safety and access concerns and apply its existing bylaws, including the Safe Access By-law where it applies. I would not support restricting otherwise lawful speech or protest simply because we disagree with it. But that does not mean staying silent: as a councillor, I would speak up against antisemitism and the celebration of violence, even where the speech itself is lawful.

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. I would work with the Jewish Federation to understand where Jewish residents are finding that existing responses to antisemitism are not working, and bring those concerns to the relevant City staff and agencies. I would support continuing safety planning with the community and practical education that helps people recognize and respond to antisemitism. I would want that work to have a clear purpose and to look at whether it is actually helping, rather than just putting out a message. The institutions of Government need to listen when people say the solutions aren't working.

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

At present, I would vote against bringing BDS measures into City policy. People have the right to raise international issues, but I do not see these campaigns as a productive use of Council's time. These measures never achieve anything other than dividing residents and generating animosity in the community. I think that advocacy is better directed toward the levels of government positioned to address the international issue, while Council focuses on its municipal responsibilities, including the safety and inclusion of Jewish residents here in Ottawa.