

SHERRI ROLLINS

For City Councillor
Fort Rouge – East Fort Garry



MAKE POVERTY HISTORY MANITOBA QUESTIONNAIRE

Q: Will you be a champion for a Winnipeg Without Poverty and commit to leading the development of a comprehensive poverty reduction plan for Winnipeg with progress indicators that have targets and timelines?

A: Absolutely, and targets and timelines are particularly important to me. I have made a campaign commitment to work towards eliminating poverty in our city by fighting for a comprehensive, citywide poverty reduction strategy so that all Winnipeggers have a chance to get ahead. We know that poverty is a multifaceted issue that needs to be addressed by focusing on improving housing, investing in child care, improving transit, reconciliation, standing up to cuts to social services, and a variety of other factors. We need to take into real consideration the proposals included in *Winnipeg Without Poverty: Calling on the City to Lead* report, and work to build a more inclusive city for everyone.

Q: What specific actions will you take to reduce poverty in Winnipeg via the City of Winnipeg?

A: Actions and ideas to reduce poverty need to be rooted in our communities, and the city has an important role to play in collaborating with communities around the city to develop a comprehensive poverty reduction strategy based in the grassroots community.

I've heard first hand from Winnipeggers at the doorstep throughout this campaign that the city needs to do a better job of making sure families can put food on the table through a real food security plan. Commuters have told me that we need to improve the frequency and reliability of transit services while keeping fares low. People who rely on social services have made it clear that they want a councillor who will stand up to needless cuts to social services. Renters have stressed the need for building more affordable housing in every community across our city.

My plan for Winnipeggers is a poverty reduction strategy that invests in our services and makes it easier for families to make ends meet. I am committed to working with communities at the grassroots to build a comprehensive, citywide poverty reduction strategy that addresses these concerns and builds a better city for all Winnipeggers.

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Q: How will you work with community groups and people with lived experience of poverty?

A: I have an established track record of working with community groups and people whether as a policy analyst or a school board trustee. Collaborating with community groups and people with lived experience is critical to ensuring a comprehensive poverty reduction strategy actually brings about the results we want for our city. Taking an approach that works constructively with communities to determine their needs is a key step to reducing poverty. I will ensure that my work as city councillor in Fort Rouge – East Fort Garry reflects the needs of neighbourhoods around the ward, and I will make it a priority to meet with stakeholders and organizations in our community dedicated to building a better life for those facing the challenges of poverty.

Q: Anything further to add?

A: I want to thank Make Poverty History Manitoba for their dedicated work to eliminate poverty in our city. We need to take real action on poverty reduction and work with communities facing poverty by addressing its underlying causes. By standing up to cuts to social services and working to provide community organizations with the resources they need as part of a comprehensive poverty reduction strategy in our city, including restorative justice, we can make a real difference in the lives of Winnipeg families struggling to make ends meet.