

**RESPONSE BY: LORALEA CARRUTHERS, CANDIDATE FOR COUNCILLOR  
WARD 1, EAST GWILLIMBURY**

Thank you for your questions. They are very specific and have really got me thinking. Instead of answering each one, I have put together a few paragraphs so that you can see who I am and where my priorities lay (see below).

Thanks so much

Loralea

As an artist myself – a silversmith, sculptor and painter- I highly respect the arts and the importance of art and culture in our community. I am also a huge supporter of public libraries and have sat on our local Library Board and been a judge for their student writing completion each year.

As a school trustee for many years I helped expand our high school arts programs so more students could take part, as well as help get Music Mondays off the ground and into our schools. The last school I named was in honour of author illustrator Barbara Reid and I am so excited to see how this naming has inspired creativity in the students that attend that school.

I believe that our municipal governments have a huge role to play in supporting arts and culture in our communities. As decisions are not made in isolation, I know that, if elected, one of my first priorities will be to ensure that my colleagues understand the importance of arts and culture in our community and to dialogue with staff about ways in which we can support this in our community.