

Economic Development Strategy Refresh Survey Results

Dates: May 10 to June 7, 2024

Contributions: 80

What makes Kawartha Lakes a great community to do business?

"""Kawartha Lakes"" is not a community. It is the individual towns/villages that have history and character.

1) great people; 2) great physical environment; 3) proximity and connectedness to GTA"

location

"Resident commitment, passion for way of life, integration of lifestyle into work setting

Access to two centers for higher learning & professional specialization

Access to an Innovation Ctr that can support the emerging footprint of a business (Launch Kawartha)

Access to financing from the Community Futures which is NOT available in Toronto.

Access to Small Business Ctr support which is not always present in a high density urban area."

"Far enough from Peterborough and Toronto to be (mostly) self sufficient for basic living needs.

Beautiful rural location with farmland and waterways galore."

Quaint town with good potential

" - the people and their support of small business and they realize the importance of small business

- services like Kawartha Lakes Economic Development and their different programs and events for small businesses that help you enhance what you have if you work with and use the resources they have available

-Chamber of Commerce in Fenelon does an incredible job keeping people informed of resources and initiatives they plan great events for businesses to get to know one another"

There is a community spirit here that provides much needed support

"The people

Location

Atmosphere"

"Location: Within hours to major cities but still rural.

Strong community support of local businesses and of each other.

Volunteer Fire department knows community members and understands agricultural life to best assist in emergencies."

"Business owners and people visiting the town take pride in being community minded and supporting local.

Many businesses are inclusive and queer friendly making it a safe space for all"

"The proximity to the GTA, Highway 7, 401, and even 35 north to Muskoka.

The lakes, and quality of life.

There are three distinct communities - Lindsay, Fenelon and Bobcaygeon, that offer a host of dining options, shopping (is improving), and there is a lot of potential for growth and amenity enhancement."

Vibrant seasonal community, the fact that artists / artisans don't require zoning to practice

"Openness of other businesses to discuss potential opportunities and partnerships

ECDEV receptive to meeting and sharing contacts

Most small business and individuals are very community oriented and supportive

Building resources for small business and entrepreneurs (i.e. Launch)"

Not really sure, the red tape that causes unnecessary delays in expanding businesses. It is like CKL doesn't want businesses to expand

Small number of bureaucrats

"Rapid growth and development

Location"

" -proximity to Toronto but with lakes, recreation. space and fresh air

-welcoming communities

-airport in the area"

Location, nice people.

Location central to cottage country

The community can be supportive.

Great rural locations for seasonal occupants, proximity to GTA, Decent transportation corridors

Not sure they are good at taxing too much and have a hospital that needs more doctors. The city of Kawartha lakes a great opportunity for psw as we have an oversupply of baby boomers that need life help

Growing year-round population and tourism.

"Great place to live.

Lower cost than GTA

Close to GTA to attract employees or access"

The business hub in CKL has a opportunity to grow, small business is still the driving force in Ontario for employment. The connection of the 407 being only 5 minutes away from the south part of CKL makes us attractive. We have generational businesses in the area and the younger demographic is taking those established businesses to a new level of customer service and brand awareness. We need to recognize the business community that exists and provide supports for these business on a larger scale. Our service business model should expand due to the aging demographic and diversified market calling CKL home.

"Heritage of downtown

Revitalization of downtown core

Strong BIA and Chamber of Commerce"

Kawartha Lakes' status as a major tourist destination is its biggest strength. The natural beauty and wonder of the area, and the community supports that are run by fellow citizens and business owners (such as the Fenelon Falls Chamber of Commerce) make it an excellent place to do business.

"Our natural environment of water and green spaces is a drawing card for those wishing to have an escape from city life.

Small town communities generally have a friendlier, more relaxed atmosphere

Because there are less businesses in general, the field is open for whatever business folks want to start."

A diversity of small business and larger box stores

Small business and their interaction with the Community!

A sense of community, beautiful landscapes and a small town feeling.

"We have strong, loyal customers.

Cottage/seasonal residents act with stabilizing effect on our economy, insulating or softening downturns somewhat."

" - central proximity to larger centres such as Peterborough, GTA, Muskoka

- ease of vehicular transportation (less traffic than cities)

- less taxes than cities"

"The Kawarthas, and more specifically Lindsay as its economic hub, is fortunate to benefit from waterway and cottage country tourism. Some will travel through the Kawarthas on their way to Muskoka, or Simcoe, while others have specifically travelled to the Kawarthas to vacation in Fenelon or in the Bobcaygeon areas. These two towns are the center of a large tourism industry from which Lindsay also benefits.

In tourism's off season the wide variety of shops and services and distinct lack of big box stores keeps the local economy running robustly until warm weather arrives again."

"Kawartha Lakes is a great community because it is made up of several communities and each with its own unique personality and charm.

There are numerous lakes and trails and an abundance of year round activities which brings many to the Kawartha Lakes.

It's nice that numerous communities within the Kawartha Lakes still have that small town community feel which is nice compared to living in more urbanized areas which makes it easy to blend in, but in Kawartha Lakes, your neighbors are friends and communities are connected."

We desire to run a business in Kawartha Lakes, especially in the seniors' healthcare sector, because our clients have significantly contributed to building this community. Despite their invaluable contributions, they receive minimal support from local authorities. By operating here, we aim to honor and support these seniors, filling the gap left by inadequate governmental assistance and ensuring they receive the care and respect they deserve. Our commitment is to enhance their quality of life locally.

Networking opportunities and community support.

Clients are kind and easy going

"Outstanding natural landscape of forest and lakes. Beautiful birds, animals of all sorts and of course fishing.

Friendly people with a fairly low crime rate. Thus, invoking a natural and relaxing atmosphere free of sirens and flashing lights.

Not overly populated maintaining a welcoming village type atmosphere."

"Location

Population"

It’s not a great community to do business with? Council gives so many hassles to people trying to build or do things in this town. It’s a shame they stop the growth. Houses yes but nothing else.

Kawartha Lakes is a small but thriving community. As a long time resident from the past , I have seen much growth over the years. The growth and innovative approach is quite refreshing although remaining to have a small town feel

Strength: Networking Events and services through places like Launch Kawartha and LDCC.

It is not. While there are several programs and directives here to “establish businesses”, I have found navigating the entire system to be very difficult. Lack of action from Economic Development to provide timely advice and meaningful inputs to make investments possible.

Although we don’t do too much business locally, the clients we do support with our digital services have a sense of community and work actively to make it a better community. The people are just nice here.

"Downtown is easy to access at this time.

Most services are offered in walking distance"

You can easily get most everything you need in the community from a trusted vendor. For the most part business know their customers needs and the customers respond with loyalty to local businesses.

Great location, great people.

Proximity to the GTA.

" -community support

-influx of seasonal population"

"There are so many groups on social media that spread word of mouth very quickly and effectively to give and receive info about community businesses

We have a variety of business to access both online and in person in CKL."

People become dedicated to the local businesses who also try to support others in the community. It still has a small town feel that the community is proud of.

- I think the small town feel is important to maintain. I think that is a value that has to be upheld when considering bring new business to the Kawarthas. It's the one thing that makes Kawartha Lakes unique to neighboring communities. I think the historical or heritage societies can play a primary role in this. That aside, I believe there is a huge potential for entrepreneurial endeavors for the Kawartha Lakes. There is so many untapped possibilities in this community making it perfect to do business in. This community has less competition than highly populated areas and tons of services are unavailable that are present in bigger cities.

A growing population.

"It has a variety of locally owned and operated businesses and is not inundated with large box stores. It provides a family feel.

It has good community resources."

"Great support network

Natural landscape is a beautiful place to work in"

Opportunity of growth in a foreseeable short time frame, small town community feel lending itself to great networking opportunities, reasonable commercial rent rates

No idea

"I have always been told that we live in a Community of Communities. Each one unique, diverse and ever changing from season to season.

This area has an ever changing set of customers. Those customers are tourists, locals, people just passing through...."

"Community support

business connections"

The small towns and local owners who work hard to keep our communities alive.

It really IS NOT a 'great community' to do business in. Our top 10 employers are dominated by public servants and government organizations. We are over-taxed and underserviced. Our local profitability is dwindled down to land acquistition and single location private unregistered businesses. Our biggest economic input is from non-local working residents and retirees. Our bubble has burst, and municipal government is bent on creating a social history which ignores the last 200 years of local development and co-operation with indigenous interests. This is being whitewashed by millenial aged civil servants hired off the web and have no interest in the ACTUAL culture of this region.

Growing number of services and businesses due to increase in housing/population. Multicultural diversity is increasing as well bringing more choice of product available.

We have the small town feels in a big city.

It is NOT a great community to do business in. I am a business owner and you have put up roadblock after roadblock. You chase away new businesses, such as the yogurt company that wanted to build a plant here. You have the longest wait for permits in Ontario, and you don't deal in good faith. Worst municipality to do business in.

Hopefully encouraging residents to shop local and support our businesses

Community support, excellent location between country and road access

close to Toronto, close to major highways, Lindsay has an industry area

Location, lots of retail, lots of tourist points of interest

"Nice weather

Good roads

Easy navigation"

Location close to major centres, transport accessibility, seemingly space and zoning for a variety of SME and light industry.

it needs to do better

Everything is easily within driving or even walking distance. Highways connect the Kawartha Lakes to bigger centre's.

"Lack of traffic congestion.

Strong WASP culture.

High local biodiversity values."

Location, workforce, closes to Peterborough

The rural feeling.

It's not, there is no business

"vendor options,

familiar faces,

relaxed feel"

"Low taxes

Less government"

Community oriented. Businesses support each other and the community. The beautification of our small downtown areas draws people to come. Unique services. And unique products.

What makes it challenging to do business in Kawartha Lakes?

"1) local demographic is older and poorer than average

2) lack of scale in business

3) slow response from City bureaucracy"

not much going on in winter

"1. Poor cellular service as you travel around the Kawartha Lakes

2. Severe lack of Transportation options - from no link to GTA or nearby towns, now licenses for Uber / Y drive expansion, no inner city links - this prevents employment sources, creates isolation / segregated communities and drinking & driving.

3. Poor urban development? Not seeing the creation of new main street centers - e.g. suburbs are concentrated with residences only but could hold small business hubs, while main streets start to hold offices for dental, weed, health, accounting creating dead main streets."

"Land use restrictions that separate light commercial (eg. coffee shop) , from residential areas thus requiring a car (and parking) to go to any business.

Parking minimums that make small businesses financially unfeasible to open."

Lack of big box stores like Walmart. Have to take business elsewhere to save money

" - TRANSPORTATION

-Internet and cell phone service spotty in some areas I can use my phone in only certain rooms of my house and sometimes i have to go outside, weekends and evenings the wifi gets spotty businesses have different hours not only 9-5 in a brick and mortar space downtown"

Lack of infrastructure, distances between areas and different ambitions for each.

"Winter's

No business"

"Increased service fees trying to align payment for services to match larger towns and cities instead of what is applicable to our area.

Increased development beyond what our infrastructure can handle.

Time delays and continuous changes when trying to obtain building approvals."

"Store hours.

Parking.

Rent being so high.

Not enough programs to assist businesses."

"There is NO collaboration or working together. Every community and group and business does their own thing. Restaurants in Bobcaygeon and Lindsay closed Sunday and Monday (when visitors are in town).

Despite the vast waterfront in Kawartha Lakes, there has not been an effort to protect, enhance or utilize the waterfront. There is literally three waterfront patios in all of Kawartha Lakes."

The communities ignorance of the value of the arts sector, the us and them attitude within the community, the towns lack of vision to stick with projects

"Lack of labour and affordable housing for lower wage employees

Lack of Healthcare

Council too quick to push additional development (i.e Flato) with out regards to infrastructure needs, future costs, environmental impact.

By-law and Planning Departments inconsistent in By-law interpretations and following of Ontario Building Code, processes are slow and arduous

Cost of infrastructure outside of urban areas i.e affordable hydro delivery, High speed internet etc."

Red tape

"Getting in touch with someone who can address my concerns

The slow process of obtaining building permits and the lack of enforcement when people proceed without permits.

The system of by laws which is complaint based and never followed up."

"Prejudice and discrimination at City Hall

Government corruption

Red tape"

" -lack of year round population to support businesses

-often too much red tape and permits, leading to a lengthy startup period

- lack of public transportation for worker base"

We need more stores... we're missing grocery stores for competition.

There are no department stores in Lindsay, so for many items you have to go elsewhere.

Alot of the community want BIG BOX stores and that is the death of small business

Lack of inter city (with GTA , Peterborough, Orillia/Barrie) and Intra (along Hwy 35 Hwy 7 routes)public transportation. Labour shortages. Zoning and Building permit permissions take too long

Expensive place to live water charges especially and municipal taxes

Lack of community based services outside of Lindsay to support the growing population as well as a lack of public transportation to connect the communities.

"Smaller group of people to hire from.

Hard to attract talented people to the area."

A challenge is finding good employees who will stay and grow with the business. Retention and competitiveness is a top barrier for all employers, how to pay and provide benefits to balance you

investment in your employees so they stay and invest in your business model. Often small business owners are looking after all aspects of running a business: generating sales to exceed expenses, marketing the business, making sure they grow steadily but maintain their quality and repetition. With inflation the last few years many employers are struggling with margins to keep employees and keep the light on for the business to continue.

"Inconsistent shopping hours of downtown merchants

Lack of annual events"

"The biggest challenge to doing business in the Kawartha Lakes is lack of internet infrastructure. I am a blogger that sells digital products when I'm not helping run a small vintage shop. If the shop were to close and I had to run everything, even my vintage resale, out of my home in Coboconk... where I am LUCKY if I'm able to upload images and files at all... I'd be in deep trouble.

Finding affordable rental space for a business is *also* extremely challenging. $2300-$2500/mo. plus utilities in Fenelon Falls? $4500 in CAMBRAY?"

"It is hard to get a response from the city for things like building permits, repairs on roads, etc if you are a small business. Big business seems to get whatever permits they want.

Internet services and structure are limited, though improvements are happening.

The natural ebb and flow of summer/winter residents, makes it harder for local businesses to keep cash flow steady."

City planning delays

That the City Council and Mayor tend to work and be influenced by the interests of Corporations and interest groups that are not in line with their Strategic Plan. The focus always needs to be on the constituents.

Seasonal business - very quiet in the winter; other shops being closed from Sun-Wed or additional days during the winter season. Some people who visit on a Monday are disappointed that other shops are closed. Some people might not come to town on certain days, because many shops are closed.

"The regulatory environment (permit approvals, development) is unfriendly and challenging to navigate. It makes taxpayers frustrated in their dealings with CKL and for newcomers sends an unwelcoming message.

The state of infrastructure in many regards makes it more costly (wear and tear on vehicles and equipment) to do business in this municipality. Our infrastructure is also insufficient for our needs - traffic is slow. Also increasing number of unnecessary speed reductions hobbles logistics.

Taxes are high for the services businesses receive. For example, in Fenelon Falls snow REMOVAL in the downtown is not very good, making it difficult for customers to access business."

" - lack of public transit within Kawartha Lakes and from Kawartha Lakes to other municipalities and since you sold off all of the railway property, there's no way to access that again

- lack of support from planning department for development unless you're Flato

- lack of upper scale establishments/restaurants (far too many pizza/fast food/Tim Horton's)"

"While our lack of big box stores is a benefit to small businesses it also creates a perception problem among some that we ""have no stores to shop in""; a sentiment frequently shared on Facebook and other sites when the topic of local shopping comes up. As I don't feel we are lacking for choice when it comes to places to shop I feel this problem is entirely one of perception.

More importantly, and more specific to Lindsay, there is a problem with crime, vagrancy and drug use. This problem is more than just an issue of perception as theft, panhandling, drug use and disruptive outbursts are an observable problem in the downtown core."

"Some of the top things that makes things challenging when starting a business would be the economy inflation and Lack of funds from the city offered to businesses for support.

But I would say one of the most challenging is staying connected or just getting responses from the city especially the development services department.

The planning department is hard to get a hold of on status of applications, etc and not being able to get direct answers when starting up your business."

Running a business in Kawartha Lakes is challenging due to insufficient support from the Chamber, counsellors, the mayor, the MP, and the MPP. Despite reaching out for help, businesses like ours are often met with empty promises and no follow-up, creating a frustrating cycle of unmet expectations. The lack of financial support further exacerbates the situation, leaving businesses like ours to struggle on their own. This lack of reliable guidance and resources hinders growth and sustainability, making it difficult for entrepreneurs to thrive. The community's economic potential remains untapped, stifled by the very entities meant to foster its development.

Those opposing change, favouritism/nepotism/bias (established businesses favouring familiarity over new businesses makes it difficult for startup small businesses to grow and flourish)

Recruiting professionals to work and high rent.

"The roads are in poor condition which truly will become a vicarious liability for the region.

Parking is lacking in many tourist and service areas

Lack of ""walk in clinics"" and access to doctors."

"Red tape

Start up costs"

Council very hard to deal with. Most people that try to do things in this town get so frustrated.

"1. The current population of seniors inhibits the innovation of business in the most general sense.

2. I have the opportunity to provide services to the senior community. The low income of most seniors cannot afford private care.

3. I believe top quality care should not just be available for the elite , all should have access."

There has always been a somewhat cliquey feeling to Lindsay's business scene, especially among those who were raised here. To be honest, it's hard to break into if you don't own a farm or a brick-and-mortar business. As someone who has operated two businesses in Lindsay that serve clients outside of the town's boundaries, I've never felt the support of the community in the sense that they were ready for real innovation or out-of-the-box businesses.

Slow moving progress of the City of Kawartha Lakes bureaucracy, despite having a "new business" concierge. This office is ill-equipped to move projects forward at the pace of business, making it difficult to invest in this area. There is also a serious lack of employment/industrial space.

Nothing really. We are a niche business, specializing in digital accessibility for digital agencies and organizations. The community doesn't have enough of our target market locally. That said, we use our entrepreneurial spirit to create new initiatives with the intension of making our community a better place. That includes starting 100menkawartha.ca, Plantaforest.ca (now PlantKawartha.ca) we do refer sales to other local businesses.

"Addicted disrupting businesses.

Addicted disrupting shoppers

Addicted stealing and asking for money

Need beat cops back"

"Rapidly increased and FORCED residential development is not just straining but breaking the CKL community. Stand up for CKL and against our community being overrun to suit someone else's agenda.

Community spirit is being eroded at a rapid pace. Long established relationships between customers and business are being shattered by ""I couldn't care less philosophy"". ""I don't know you and it won't matter because there is another customer (and next victim) standing behind you."""

Government red tape, high taxes, municipal mismanagement.

Red tape. Government regulations at all levels put entrepreneurs through the hoops. Why is the decision process so lengthly. Put it in the passing lane.

" -lack of resources for northern area of Kawartha Lakes

-homelessness and drug epidemic

-lack of municipal wide transportation"

It’s a very nepotistic town. My spouse and I moved here from the GTA and we have never seen nepotism in play like we do here. It halts new growth and opportunity for anyone who didn’t grow up in this town.

"Common complaints I have heard...

-taxes

-rental costs

-limited parking, especially accessible

-people go out of town because not everything is available in the community and they will purchase cheaper while out of tosn"

I truly believe its challenging to do business on a couple different factors. I believe it would be beneficial to the community of the municipality and community leaders should heavily promote entrepreneurial endeavors and risk taking. In my experience there is a lack of business risk takers in the Kawartha Lakes than in other regions where I have lived. Enable, promote grants, and train the young entrepreneurs of this community. I have seen the municipality do the opposite in this community. For example, there is a young couple that own multiple businesses in Lindsay. They are taking risks and providing jobs to several tax generating people in this community. The municipality has recently closed down one of their businesses (AirBnB) due to silly policies. This is not promoting business this is stifling it. As a community lets develop a governing body that works with entrepreneurs, not puts unremovable barriers in their way. Perhaps the challenges are found in the political nonsense rather than outward barriers.

Economic statuses of the majority of the population, i.e., many people who live in the Kawartha Lakes are older (retired) or are at/near the poverty line, thus not a lot of spending.

"Transportation - roads are terrible for driving on

Transportation, no public transportation connection to other communities"

"Lack of sufficient downtown parking

No public transit from other locations (Peterborough, GTA)"

I'm in a services based business, in order to be successful I rely on other small businesses in the area to exist and thrive. Our strategy for growth plans on a higher unemployment rate and growth for low income housing/demographics which does not grow, fuel or increase my business. There needs to be more focus on business economic development in the area instead of seniors/low income demographics.

Lindsay does not have enough choice for shopping. We need more discount grocery stores & we need a department store. I have to travel to Newmarket or Peterborough to get products I use & need or I shop on line. I would prefer to shop local but I’m not able to pay the higher prices of items I need. I go to other towns once a month to purchase & stock up on items at a lower price than in

Lindsay. With all the new homes being built the stores are becoming over crowded & it's going to get worse.

Definitely more housing and transit is needed to move between communities, and provide a stable workforce.

Variety of service providers (facilitate quote process)

Trying to create or grow a business outside of Lindsay has always been difficult but now it is close to impossible. City offices have closed their doors and council has closed their ears.

Taxes, no infrastructure, and an indifferent government hell-bent on putting their non-resident culture ahead of the electorate. Not to mention the Nero-like fiddling while our streets become the home for despots and social services drawing criminals.

Location is okay but not really seen as a main destination to visit other than cottagers. There is a huge untapped resource in the areas surrounding the Scugog river near the mill and all along that area. Thought and planning should be given to add restaurants and business that would thrive from overlooking the water. Trent waterways should develop better quality moorings and services to make Lindsay a destination that is worth the ride up from Sturgeon Lake. Perhaps their is an undercurrent of resistance to change by long time residents and Flemming College. Development of waterfront should be measured and also include proper thought to improving parks and keeping enough natural spaces.

Not everyone fits in the round peg hole. The new zoning has yet to be explained, I have no idea what community I live in Verulam? or Fenelon? or City of Kawartha Lakes? I have no idea what I can and cannot do, it sure would be nice to get some help.

"Everything I just mentioned, but here it is again...

1. You chase away new potential businesses (such as Home Depot, which GAVE UP because of all the hassles)

2. You let the paid staff decide on regulations instead of the people elected to represent their ward. The tail is wagging the dog.

3. You use by-laws that victimize people who are never going to be in violation, just in case, and once again chase away businesses or they close down because of unfair by-laws that overreach and don't even address the real problem."

"Attitudes of residents to shop at big stores out of the area I.e. Costco, Walmart

Maybe variety"

Red Tape

public transit, no railway,

Weather, locals not accepting change, limited public transportation

"Winter weather

Not enough clients

Expensive"

Very expensive and little financial support for small and emerging businesses and entrepreneurs.

keep business areas close together, instead of driving everywhere

Parking can be difficult to find at times.

"Poor education.

Lack of third order goods and services.

Drug addicted residents."

Not enough big box stores.

Taxes and transportation

A lack of selection

"red tape,

supply chain challenges,

government/health unit interference"

"Increasing taxes

Increasing government"

Not enough, or non existent public transit to and from our own communities. (Lindsay to Bobcaygeon for example) And mo public transit yo and from larger, outside communities (Kawartha Lakes to Oshawa, Toronto or even Peterborough)

What are the top opportunities for attracting and retaining business and improving Kawartha Lakes's future economic growth?

"1) housing costs relative to GTA

2) potential for generational turnaround in local demographic with young families

3) housing and commercial development = more customers"

more community hosted events that businesses can participate in like Riverfest they used to do

"Honestly this is one industry / opportunity at a time. We need to develop white collar industry prospects that will help retain the children and students who study here.

Be careful of the big box. While Walmart is desired, we should be nurturing our small storefronts. Instead focus on attracting large head offices from dead downtown centers. e.g. Canadian Tire - why is it still at Yonge & Eg?"

"Focus on removing arbitrary and expensive land use planning that was designed when cars, space, and gas was cheap.

Mixed-use land designations that put businesses close to its customers and residents near their workplace. Allow a business to start in their garage or house until they are financially sustainable to grow into another bigger location.

Remove parking minimums.

Keep increasing density in/near downtowns and existing commercial zones so people can walk to common needs."

Population increasing

" - The Chambers of Commerce

-the acceptance and support received from other small businesses yes they piss each other off but they work together more than not and they don't slam each other on social media like other communities sometimes do

-positive energy in small communities they look out for one another they support one another when things get tough in the end they are not only doing what is best for their business but for the love of their community whether it is supporting events or volunteering"

There is a large amount of land available to attract industrial, manufacturing. A push for population growth will attract new consumers and workers

"Summer

Great people"

"Agriculture is a prime business and employer in KL. Ensuring its viability will ensure continued business opportunities.

Agritourism is a year-round attraction for growth opportunities in culinary, craft breweries, and organics just to name a few.

Opportunities for medical staff and schooling with the increased housing being built."

"Rent control

More programs to help businesses open."

"1. Tourism - there MUST be a concerted effort to expand tourism opportunities, year round, in Kawartha Lakes - beyond ""come see a dry mason stonewall"".

2. Agricultural innovation and expansion. We have a lot of great agricultural land. We need to protect it, and enhance it through innovation, so that while we're growing and expanding our residential footprint, we can continue to show off and support our agricultural community.

3. Health care and wellness. We can't continue to grow, or hope to attract even more economic investment, without investing in our medical facilities, access to quality healthcare, family doctors, specialists and more."

the various "silos" would pull together we could all grow and thrive, tourists could have easy access to the full range of products and experiences if those things were available from a central source

"Less focus on catering to large land developers and more focus on addressing Community issues such as affordability, skilled labour force and ongoing Healthcare shortages.

Explore improved resources for temporary worker/immigration sponsorship of skilled workers.

Provide resources in terms of access to affordable housing and training opportunities

Simplification of bureaucracy and consistent application of By-laws and requirements regardless of business size, ethnicity of owners, etc.

Refocus on Manufacturing, remote service workers, rather than catering to large scale land development"

Cut the red tape

"Lower property costs that Toronto

Empty stores that can provide an opportunity for new business oportunities."

"Growth is the best opportunity

Timing - change and crisis = opportunity"

" -affordable housing for workers

- doctors available for everyone

- having desired retail here so the money stays in the community

- using our proximity to recreation as a carrot to investors- we can offer a better lifestyle than the city can"

We have a lot of new developments happening, but the infrastructure isn't keeping pace.

Attract a Walmart or other department store.

"Close enough to Toronto

to attract them.

Small town appeal"

Get a reliable Public transport connection to GTA. Enhance seasonal recreation- cross country skiing. Build a winter park to include a small ski hill.

Nice trees on many streets and anything you can do to retain youth career opportunities will be a great positive

Development that is geared to young families with infrastructure to support education recreation and inter-generational programming would help to attract more people to the area, helping to grow and sustain the economy in Kawartha Lakes.

Need more communication about the area, help to attract people to the lifestyle and tell them there are good jobs available in the community.

The lifestyle and connection to a smaller community is an attraction. We have rapid expansion of growth in our main hub of Lindsay, we need to promote business that are not necessarily in the Lindsay District. We have so many specialized outlining business that need to be promoted as a CKL business that can and well work together to build a stronger employment market. I find a hug gap in piggybacking our local businesses, a stronger working together business model is key for larger success. Local economics from a municipal point of view can and should provide supporting entrepreneurship and promoting innovation. Travel the area visit the business understand our local business community better, we need to engage and make the business community feel like we are all pushing for CKL business prosperity.

"Investment by municipal government in economic development department.

Increase in tourism staff to better promote the Kawarthas"

"Support for local producers of food and other materials. KL has tons of fertile land and many small farmers just trying to do their thing. Financial help would probably be the most welcomed, especially for those growing crops like hemp for paper/textile use (since hemp requires licensing). Tuning KL into a hub for growing everything from the food we eat to the flowers we decorate with (and the textiles we use to make clothing) would be a pretty neat thing to do.

Perks for businesses that pay their employees a LIVING WAGE. Employees that have more money to spend put more money into the economy, including those businesses. A living wage for the Kawartha Lakes would be approximately $20.60/hour. Can businesses that pay their employees a living wage be rewarded based on how many employees GET that kind of pay? Might it encourage more businesses to participate? Maybe. ontariolivingwage . ca

Internet. So many new businesses started from peoples' homes during the early years of the pandemic, many businesses also found out that they could have their employees work from home and improve morale that way. Pressure ISPs to improve service to rural KL and bring it up to speed

(ha ha) with the 21st Century and you'll create more opportunities for start-ups that may not have had a chance otherwise."

"City of Kawartha Lakes needs some better shopping, otherwise people just drive past the main center of Lindsay and go to Oshawa, Peterborough, Newmarket or Orillia.

We already have enough restaurants for the number of people using them. We need more general shopping/ groceries, places of employment like factories

Without decent roads to travel, and charging stations for electric cars, you can not attract and retain business as no one will want to travel up here and get stuck in a pot hole or without power for their EV"

Improved health care is a necessity

Focusing on local business, and solid public and active transportation network, and making that the highlight of what attracts people to our area. The large multinational Corporation like Walmart is no longer unique and not sustainable. People don't want to drive to big parking lots. They want to walk and ride to local business and build a community. People want connections and want to support those who live and work in their neighbourhoods.

Maintain a balanced municipal budget to keep taxes as low as possible, maintain good and safe roads/parks for residents and tourists advocating to increase the number medical doctors in the area to support residents who need medical services (so they don't move out of town to find a doctor), dealing with homelessness and alcohol/drug abuse, maintaining beautiful flowers in shopping districts.

"To promote economic growth we need to attract employers, particularly larger scale employers and manufacturers. To do so we need access to markets, which would require a twinning of Highway 35 south of Lindsay. We also need space to locate those businesses, so a willingness to work with new employers to easily and quickly rezone and/or build - an enhanced/expedited development process. Likewise, an industrial condo offering premium, expandable space to locate would be beneficial in attracting those kinds of business. Its very hard to locate in CKL. This also requires a vision beyond arts/culture and agriculture with a greater focus on businesses that actually employ 6 or more full time employees.

A Via/Go Train link would also enhance our area as a commuter hub.

We need more accommodation, and definitely more outside of Lindsay.

Fenelon Falls needs more docking on Sturgeon Lake to facilitate lake-based economic activity. Would also help shoppers to easily access downtown during busy traffic times."

" - revamp the planning department/town council

- get rid of City of Kawartha Lakes and give the individual towns their communities back again"

"I feel that if the issue of derilect and abandoned upper floors in downtown Lindsay is addressed this could create opportunity to not only add more housing to the downtown (and therefore create a new category of consumer who literally lives in the business core of the Kawarthas) but create new spaces that could be leased to businesses who do not rely on the same foot traffic a ground floor business would receive. These spaces could attract new offices, firms and professionals to the downtown area. These businesses would also pay into the downtown BIA levy, increasing the organization's operating budget.

In regards to the wider county, towns such as Fenelon, Bobcaygeon and Coboconk would be wise to focus their attention on attracting the new residents of Lindsay who have moved to the Kawarthas from the city by offering the small-town experience that they left Toronto in search of."

Making initiatives to attract new residents, organizations to expand businesses to offer more employment opportunities in Kawartha Lakes. But most importantly being able to offer affordable housing options especially for the kids growing up in todays market.

Kawartha Lakes can improve significantly by supporting businesses that genuinely aim to help and support local residents, even if they don't attract tourists or appear conventionally "desirable." Providing robust support to such businesses can enhance community welfare, particularly in sectors like senior healthcare. This support could include financial aid, consistent follow-up from local authorities, and streamlined access to resources. Prioritizing businesses that contribute to the well-being of residents fosters a stronger, more resilient community. This approach not only benefits the immediate population but also creates a more sustainable, inclusive, and compassionate local economy in the long run.

Opportunity for building personal relationships with community members, opportunity for building personal relationships with the Chamber and BIA to better promote and outreach.

More housing

Ensure infrastructures of roads, parking and medical access are brought up to speed.

"Big box stores

Entertainment

Festivals"

So many New homes going into this town and no infrastructure to accommodate these people. We need more retail. We need more doctors of course medical is always a problem.

Areas like the Kawartha Lakes with the high population of seniors need to look at extra funding so that our hospitals are not over flowing with "failure to thrive" patients. Even if short term funding was available for services while they wait for funded services.

Focusing on developing waterfront areas, particularly with an emphasis on restaurants offering cultural food experiences and outdoor or nature-overlooking patios, represents a multifaceted

strategy for a growing city. It not only caters to the desires of visitors and locals alike but also taps into broader trends of economic development, cultural enrichment, and environmental sustainability.

Light-scale manufacturing, green tech, and women in creative businesses. (I tick every single one of these boxes)

"Remote workers that can have a lifestyle in a small community.

Businesses that service seniors

Businesses and services that support rural"

"More variety of business

Better parking access for growth

Keep the quaintness.

Better hours of business"

Recreation , art and culture are an important attraction for the CKL area. These are not at all keeping pace with planned growth. Well actually there is no "planned" growth. It is a free-for- all where developers exploit and the existing citizens are victims.

Cut red tape and unnecessary by laws. Start encouraging industry to come back instead of chasing it away.

Tourism, Housing Tiny Homes, be a leader in this area.

" -maintaining public spaces

-revamping brick and mortar spaces as many have fallen into disrepair

-development of further resources for SMEs

-investing in recreational areas

-access to health care

-access to transportation"

"Lack of diversity makes new cultural businesses have a space and place in CKL

Simply because locals are tired of the same tired choices. People need change and new cultural foods, music, and experiences are something this town desperately needs."

"We have a population that has needs that are not met.

Eg. We need a place to purchase warm clothing for families when winter hits, not just cheap quality.

We need ability to purchase toy's, activities/games evt for families

We have the ability to support our community better then almost any other. We have more charities and programs then other areas"

I think the key to attracting business to the Kawartha Lakes is utilizing its strengths. Perhaps bring and promote events that are centered around or located on its lakes and forests. I moved to the Kawarthas because of the lakes and trees. Why not host concerts, sporting events, community events around the concept of lake life or the outdoors.

eco-tourism, eco-recreation, and localized businesses

"improved roads to ease transportation

keeping it a family feel with small independent operated businesses

Keep the downtown core the downtown core - do not bring in big box stores to the outlaying areas."

"Growing our tax-base to help support new infrastructure and maintain service levels

There is a growing awareness of the impact of climate change - businesses that promote eco-friendly or environmentally sustainable growth may have more buy-in than ever before"

Services within the community attract businesses. We are in desperate need of more services in this area- recreation facilities (indoor and outdoor) and severe lack of children's programming exist, healthcare again with lack of doctor access in this area, families need more support in daycares as it's impossible to find. All these factors make it very unattractive to relocate here.

We need more competition in the grocery & household products this should be appealing to new businesses.

Business need to understanding the culture of living in the Kawartha Lakes. Retirees go south in the winter, but then home in the summer. A strong workforce is need with good transportation ideas to move people about. More communities need to work together NOT in silos. Combine volunteers; combine projects or events.

"Quality of life for owners/ staff

tourism"

An open door policy that says how can we help you achieve your goal.

Real estate speculation.

"Waterfront development.

Increase quality events at LEX.

Better solutions for homelessness and low income housing."

With new development in buildings and homes in the area, we need to expand the opportunities for competitive businesses. For example, Fenelon Falls has only 1 grocery store...no competition so they can jack up prices and drive the locals out of the village to go shop elsewhere in Lindsay.

"1. Offering a break on property tax for the first few years.

2. No more insane by-laws.

3. Let the by-law officers do their job instead of passing by-laws that just add to the bureaucracy.

4. Help people develop their property instead of making it so difficult, and support local businesses instead of trying to find out what they're doing wrong.

5. Stop giving all our good land to large-scale developers who put their names on our historic monuments just because they have more money."

"Offer variety, convenience, uniqueness.

Good job opportunities to help keep people local"

Movement to greener requirements for industry, eg. education to move away from fossil fuel burning and movement in that direction with set criteria, bonuses and penalties set by government. Support either the carbon tax or something similar to incentivise movement.

small village feeling, close to major areas, close to highways

Repair rural roads, support new business

Interesting

Financial support, a cohesive focus for what business we want the community to focus on,

More small houses, duplex, fix roads, clean up town frontage

Small town feel. Could attract the movie industry with tax breaks. Encourage retail owners to keep the small town feel. Tax breaks for maintaining "country" feel. Reducing parking levies.

"Parks.

Improving local educated workforce.

Improve infrastructure (architectural control guidelines,BIAs)"

Walmart, Home Depot, Bus service, Cath lab in Lindsay hospital. More doctors,

Allow business to be developed in the urban settings. Close to the consumer. Fix roads from the rural areas so goods can flow easily to the urban centers.

Lower rents

variety of services and goods

"Reduce size of government

Reduce taxes"

"We are building a lot of housing, which will increase our population. More people, more money making opportunities for business

We do however need other shopping choices. Our fowntowns are great for unique and specially items. But not great for families who need to outfit 2 growing kids."

If the City could resolve only one issue/challenge to encourage sustained business growth and investment in the local economy, which one would be the priority?

deliver infrastructure to support growth

rent

Transportation / Cellular

"Allow as of right mixed-use developments in both new and existing residential zones.

Some restrictions can stay in place for obvious reasons (industrial noise, pollution, etc.) but most new business types (coffee shop, corner store, lawyer, pizza shop, restaurant, hobby store, etc) can easily co-exist next to residential of all types."

Police enforcing consequences for drug addicts and theft in the community

TRANSPORTATION

Infrastructure

Traffic

Reduce the increased municipal fees and provide transparency and collaboration with entrepreneurs trying to start up a business.

More programs to help businesses open.

"Healthcare and wellness.

If we could build upon or expand the Ross Memorial Hospital.

If we could attract and KEEP more family doctors.

If we could attract more medical specialists.

That would go a long way to supporting existing residents and businesses, and establishing Kawartha Lakes as a destination for others starting or growing their businesses, raising a family, etc."

lack of unity in our communities - could encourage that we can all rise / grow together, but the city would have to lead by example

Eliminating bureaucracy, Clear concise and consistently imposed by-laws.

Cut the red tape

"Speed up the process of providing permits.

I have heard from several builders that COKL has the slowest and most tedious system which tends to discourage people or tends to encourage building without a permit. People say it is easier to gain forgiveness than to gain permission. And that has proven to be true in many instances that I have observed."

Become more inviting - cut the red tape and welcome others; for example, you cannot build a heritage economy by promoting one family to the exclusion of all others and by demonizing newcomers. Welcome opportunity and difference.

- reduce red tape and permits- make it easier to start a business here

Infrastructure improvements...roads, more schools, better bus system, bigger (or an additional) hospital.

Bring some bigger retail businesses to Lindsay. Then the outlying public would more inclined to do business here

For investment, maybe tax encouragement

facilitate faster zoning and building permit approvals

Increase efficiency get more done at a lower cost same as what most rural residents and are challenged with

Invest in infrastructure.

Publicize the area to draw people to the area to work and live.

We have had so many challenges in the last 4 years, I own and operate a family business and the key to our survival has been diversification. With diversification comes opportunity for different revenue streams, effective marketing platforms, networking and strong workforce. The City could develop a stronger marketing platform that would allow a broader base of businesses to be showcased. Recognizing this is a financial support BUT working together to promote each other locally will lead a stronger supporting local and investing local. When businesses grow locally and support locally you have a stronger sense of community. As we become more diverse we need to promote on a larger scope of local business and services equaling increases in jobs and supports the success of our communities. City's role is to create a sense of community and stimulate local economies.

Secure increased funding opportunities for eastern rural Ontario small businesses and not for profits.

I am torn between "perks for Living Wage employers" and "internet infrastructure" because both would inject badly-needed funds into the economy, but better (affordable, alas) internet access

would also help those in lower income brackets access opportunities that aren't currently accessible to them. I can't really pick just one.

EV charging stations

Health care

To look at the commercial zoning laws to modify Kawartha Lakes to have more commitment to 15 minute City's. We need more multi-use buildings and not more single dwelling housing. We need to better incorporate small business with our current suburban neighbourhoods so that all people can access what is needed without owning a vehicle, but the having the ability to walk, ride, be pushed to access any and all of the necessities for daily life.

Maintain a balanced City budget and to not overtax people and/or businesses i.e. keep commercial/residential property tax rates as low as possible, by focusing on core City programs.

Lengthy development process: work with employers to expand or relocate to CKL easily through expedited programs and alleviating some of the development requirements/studies

- get rid of City of Kawartha Lakes and put it back to individual towns

"The most pressing concern to myself, a Lindsay business owner is the vagrancy in our downtown. In the last two weeks alone I have had two of what I would call ""major incidents"" involving vagrants, one of which escalated into a fist fight.

As mentioned earlier, the problem goes beyond the simple fact that these people are disrupting business operations downtown through their theft and outbursts - they are creating an atmosphere in our business core that many of our customers, especially our seniors (who make up a large chunk of Lindsay's current population) find offputting. Whether their level of unease in the downtown is justified or out of proportion the fact is that that's the way they feel and these people are the root cause.

If nothing can be done to remove them then the question becomes ""how do we make our customers feel safe downtown?"" and ""Does the fact that we need to tell people they are actually safe downtown make our downtown sound unsafe?"" - from a marketing perspective this seems like a catch 22."

Communication with the City and the business itself when it comes to planning, development, etc. so businesses can start up and have the success the thrive in the Kawartha Lakes.

The priority should be enhancing reliable support and follow-through from local authorities. Addressing this issue can foster sustained business growth and investment in the local economy. Reliable support includes clear communication, consistent follow-up, and accessible resources from the Chamber, counselors, the mayor, the MP, and the MPP. When businesses feel genuinely supported, they're more likely to thrive, invest locally, and contribute positively to the community. Improved support mechanisms would build trust, encourage entrepreneurial ventures, and attract new investments, creating a vibrant, resilient economy in Kawartha Lakes.

"Better marketing support and promotion for growing small businesses.

Many businesses, events/etc go unheard because of the lack of promotion."

Affordable commercial rent, encouraging new residents to support local businesses

Fix the roads

Red tape opening a business here.

Retail is the biggest problem. Everyone goes to Peterborough or Port Perry to Shop so much Friday there are nothing here. They need more box stores Kent Street a nightmare for people coming and going whoever laid out the town wasn't thinking ahead. Kry has become a disaster. Need to get more infrastructure outside of town.

temporary funding for seniors

Attract and retain talent. Again, as a business owner my first option is to hire local, however, we've struggled with the workforce. They require modern amenities, cultural restaurants, safe parks, community center that is inviting to all and, reliable infrastructure to make our city more livable and appealing to a skilled workforce. They require access to efficient public transit outside of Lindsay. These are all aspects that will influence where talented individuals choose to live and work.

Having enough city planners employed to work with the businesses wanting to invest here.

Less roadblocks and delays for business. The perception is that it is a roadblock rather than a partner.

"The addicted are ruining downtown core.

They dedicate in receiving areas and are entitled so they are blatant about stealing. My customers are scared because they are followed to give money. New people are horrified when they experience the constant annoying harassment"

"STOP the crazy level of residential growth!!!!

What is worse, much of the residential squallier is taking place on Prime farm land no less!

CKL and Peterborough county have lost massive amounts of farm land to development and urban pressure. Agriculture is a top revenue driver for this area and is is becoming extinct. Ask any agricultural business if this is a place to grow and there will say...NO!."

Cut the red tape. There are too many restrictions in the CKL.

See answer ...what makes it challenging to do business in CKL

Access to public transportation in all areas of Kawartha Lakes

"Let new businesses come to the city! Both large and small. There is ZERO reasons companies like

Starbucks, Walmart and Home Depot shouldn't be here ALREADY. Gananoque has a population of 5300 and CKL has 81,000 and even they have a Starbucks. You are chasing new businesses away. Our new home builder left CKL almost 10

years ago because of the nepotism

and red tape. Get with the program already."

Cost of living/renting/Tax here

Refer to my answer in question one. I think sometimes governing bodies can stand in the way of holistic progress.

Improvements to the down-town cores, improve safety of residence, and improve the social and economical status of the unfortunates, and beatification of areas near waterways.

lower all tax levels

More parking - parking garage perhaps. Something that would benefit all businesses and visitors to the downtown. As much as we do need bike racks and pedestrian walkways, the majority of people visiting/shopping/working come from out of town by car. If there is no sustained public transit option (which would be the other option), this will not likely change in the near future. People need to be able to get here and then park. With the increase in population coming, unless there are substantial plans for public transit to increase, more parking is the only option to allow people to be in the downtown core.

Increase in community services from the city- more programming/facilities/offerings to attract families and therefore businesses to relocate

Cut the red tape & hold ups with permits etc so it's not such a challenge for companies to come here.

The City of Kawartha Lakes need to treat all communities the same in this area.

Shopping options for community - no big box stores so residents have to go out of town.

Allow business to build and grow throughout the CKOL we are leaving the small rural communities behind.

Stop wasting public funds on putting lipstick on pigs and start investing in infrastructure.

Better plan and design of Scugog River waterfront.

Increase public transit for the WHOLE city, not just Lindsay.

Get out of our way.

Transportation

Stop or control misinformation out there, you cant have a solid trustworthy plan if missinformation mixes everyone up, what are we to believe and support to move together as one cohesive community. Set a long term course that should be non-partisan.

homelessness, more low income housing

More focus on the rural areas instead of the larger towns

Not surw

A long term plan to focus on an industry of opportunity (like green energy, battery recycling or something similar), support for skills development for local labour and associated investment to support growth

areas to build businesses

Easily accessible buses between towns running on regular schedules.

Deter big box stores from establishing .

Big box stores.

Protect the country appeal.

Bring more business to the area

planning and building department are far too slow and inefficient

Taxes being too high

More amenities to attract small and midsized business owners and retain the people who live here and could be provided better wages

Describe your vision of Kawartha Lakes's economy over the next 5–10 years.

more of the same, agriculture/construction/retail/tourism with population growth factored in; there will be stress on community services

variety of business types and less chains

"Vibrant downtowns in each town - not necessarily owned by one family group, but diverse businesses that a curated / zoned properly so that downtowns attract residents & tourists and ongoing service based businesses are accessible in business parks.

Industrial / centers of business - attracting head offices from businesses that want to balance costs, attracted to lifestyle and seek an employment base of white / blue collar workers

Strong support for black owned or female owned businesses or business leaders - not pink washing - but genuine public goals & measurement of % of black/female on boards, at executive level, in staffing roles with city.

Recognition of the non profit sector which brings complementary productivity, employment and outputs to the region.

Strong transportation linkage to reduce isolation, improve employment mobility, support hospitality businesses.

Strong focus on livable wages for our heavy minimum wage workers, marketing and encouraging benefits in sectors where contract work is relied on."

"A strong collective of small and medium-sized, adaptive businesses that have the ability to start, grow, stabilize, and even shrink as required within an encouraging and straightforward permitting process.

A focus on our local strengths (agriculture, recreation, tourism) and current global needs (sustainability, environmental resilience, local economies) are critical to our success."

"Walmart,

Walmart and Walmart"

I see it growing but it needs to be mindful of the speed it grows and that it doesn't bulldoze over what we have. Its not just bringing all people in but the right people who have a respect for what is here enviromentally, socially and economically. We will support if the prices are comparable, if the service goes above and beyond, they are kind and compassionate, they step up and become involved in a non judgemental manner and that they do not just grab and stick a fence and gate up to keep what is theirs.

"A bustling Main Street (in various townships) with new housing to attract workers to fulfill new manufacturing. Various new hotels and tourism venues to sustain the tourism which we already have and which will only grow as the communities around us grow.

A venue for the many different stake holders (or townships) to participate together in a clear shared vision for the city."

I think it's going to crash big time need more cheaper shops grocery store

Continued strong agricultural sector which supports the community through on-farm and off-farm subsidiary employment. A downtown core that supports local businesses. New schools, public and private that can support the influx of population.

Growth! Bakery's, butchers, more doctors/clinics/mental health assistance, bowling alley, restaurants that focus on local food!

"If I could wave a magic wand, my vision for Kawartha Lakes over the next 5 to 10 years is straightforward: I would enhance our waterfront to make it a more active and engaging area for both locals and tourists. I would also focus on improving our environmental health, ensuring our lakes and rivers are clean and well-maintained. This is essential not just for the environment but for making Kawartha Lakes a more inviting place to live and visit.

Additionally, I would develop more dining and shopping options to support year-round tourism and boost our local economy. Lastly, I want to see world-class healthcare and wellness facilities established here to provide top-notch medical care to our community. These changes are what I believe would support and secure the future of Kawartha Lakes."

I see the arts sector as a key engine in growth - it would bring tourist dollars in, would give opportunities for anyone in our communities and that creativity could improve other sectors of our economy.

"Focus on sustainable, community oriented projects

For land development hold companies accountable to include affordable and rental units as a percentage of any projects, and be more environmentally responsible (tree protection/replacement, green space requirements etc)

Attracting actual manufacturing companies rather than continued land development for residential properties that are unaffordable to many local residence,

Continued support for local small business ventures providing training and support for Entrepreneurs such as Launch Kawartha.

Encouraging workers for businesses in the community rather than residences for workers whho leave the municipality for employment.

Renewable energy opportunities (harnessing existing hydro generation opportunities that were utilized locally prior to Hydro One Monopoly (i.e. small scale generating station in Fenleon)."

"I see it getting worse why would businesses come here when it takes so long to get proper permits.

Too many large ugly houses that people with minimum wage jobs cannot afford. Not enough variety of retail spaces."

I hope to keep many interesting and varied store front businesses and perhaps a couple of big box stores.

I think you should pay for the answers to this question but ideally, the City would hire someone with talent (as opposed to your friends and family) to realistically and creatively plan to develop businesses to meet the needs of the population growth. For eg., health care services, Entertainment and culture (requires research into the new population's interests), education (both child and adult) - for example, maybe a Trent U satellite campus or distance uni with a focused expertise like agri-business or AI applications. And so on.

"I would like to see some industries that employ people- we can't just be a retirement community. Utilize the airport to support businesses.

Recreation(boating, fishing, snowmobiling, etc) is our strength. These should be supported- fishing is a concern- the lakes are being overfished by multi tournaments- there needs to be control over the number of them- or we won't have a fishing resource."

We need more employment. The houses that are being built now are not for first time buyers and there's a distinct lack of well paid jobs in the City of Kawartha lakes.

Lindsay needs more industry & retail.

"Hard to say.

With the housing growth, it's inevitable that business will follow because people who moved here will want to start or move their existing business."

I see alot of service industry growth, Tech growth is possible if there are supports in place. New Agri business may be spurred by the Farm College.

Places for young people to work live and afford a home. I would like to see more municipal employees live and pay taxes in Kawartha Lakes

A mixed economy of industry, business, arts and culture that provides training and employment opportunities for current and future residents; a thriving tourism industry; and strong community based programming to support a healthy population.

Would like to see more manufacturing.

Embracing change and growth by encouraging the next generation to stay and invest in their community. We have an aging demographic and diverse background that will be making CKL their home. The local area needs to support by growing services that are in need and providing local products and shopping experiences that allow you to meet all you needs and wants locally. Tourism will continue to grow and we need to have the proper infrastructure and amenities to have folks come and stay locally, every dollar we generate locally supports the businesses who support the communities.

"It will be a challenge to keep up with the demand on our services.

Without the necessary number qualified staff to meet the demand, opportunities will be missed."

More businesses providing locally-made products from local artisans and crafters. More locally-grown food. Retailers specializing in locally-made things and not just home decor from Toronto wholesalers. I don't know. I'm not very good at long-term thinking, I'm pretty much permanently stuck in the now.

More factories would employ larger numbers of people, but without good roads for direct travel, getting parts in and out of the area is costly

A couple more big box stores

That the City of Kawartha Lakes becomes a destination that builds Public and Active Transportation into a core value that attracts visitors from all walks of life because this is a community that isn't driven by large multinational Corps, but small business where are people can get around safely, and connect with people that supporting they're families.

To encourage manufacturing and retail industries to thrive and grow - be open to new concepts of doing business e.g. increasing permits for food trucks in busy areas, pop-up retail shops, look for ways to encourage larger patios at store fronts for people to sit, relax and enjoy.

A vibrant community with a tax base strongly supported by commercial and industrial businesses that offers good, full time employment opportunities and a high quality of life for residents.

I hope to see some of the factories be resurrected and empty buildings being occupied with businesses.

"If some sort of justice reform is to pass and vagrancy becomes a reduced issue downtown I feel that an initiative to revitalize the upper floors of Lindsay's downtown buildings with a mix of housing and commercial spaces would see an economic revitalization of the downtown on par with the physical revitalization recently completed.

And with Lindsay's population set to nearly double in the next ten years I predict tourism will account for an even bigger slice of the Kawarthas' economy as Lindsay will still see its share of tourists passing through on their way to cottage country, but the ""cottage country towns"" in the area will experience a new demographic of tourists - now visiting from Lindsay itself."

"The senior population is growing dramatically in the Kawartha Lakes. Because of our large senior population, the average wait time for a long term care home is rapidly increasing as well. To put it simply, there aren't enough 'facilities' to accommodate our senior population now, let alone in years to come.

It would be great to see more personalized support, programs and homes in the Kawartha Lakes that can accommodate this."

Over the next 5–10 years, I envision Kawartha Lakes’s economy as vibrant and inclusive, driven by diverse local businesses thriving with active support from local authorities. Enhanced collaboration between government and entrepreneurs will foster innovation, particularly in vital sectors like healthcare and sustainable tourism. Improved infrastructure and financial assistance will attract new investments while existing businesses grow and innovate. A strong emphasis on supporting community-focused enterprises will ensure economic resilience, benefiting residents of all ages. This vision includes a balanced economy where prosperity is shared, local talent is nurtured, and the natural beauty of Kawartha Lakes is preserved and celebrated.

Growth in diversity among businesses, restaurants, and shopping centers. More events to bring people together; multiple summer downtown events, live music festivals, music venues for diverse musicians styles, etc.

Steady population growth, new residents supporting local

Kawartha Lakes will become the new "Muskoka" in relation to being one of the most desired and beautiful places to live and or vacation in.

"Big box stores

Factories"

Lindsay definitely needs to have more growth more industry to account people moving here, got so many new homes coming in not enough retail for these people need to start expanding outside of town. Kent Street is a nightmare. Been in this town for 21 years and all I see is more new houses but nothing else to go with them.

not sure

My vision would be a very diverse town of families and business people who prioritize health. We bike, we play, we dine, and we enjoy community. We celebrate each other in business and life. We focus on building this community based on sustainability and trying new things instead of following traditional ways. We enhance our waterfront, reclaiming land and space to add value to the community and tourism. We hire based on talent, not connections, and we proudly celebrate without expecting something in return. We cut through the noise and do what's good for the land and future generations. It truly is simple. We build and run this city like a business based on holistic values for the greater good of humanity. It truly can be beautiful.

"My 5-10 was to build a small-scale, light footprint woollen manufacturing plant, building on an existing woollen mill and expanding into textile production. Starting out with 5 jobs in the first three years, it will expand to about 10 jobs in the next 7. With that business, I was also wanting to develop some employment area M2 land, so that other businesses would have a chance to locate here and get started.

Apparently this isn't possible in any kind of timeline under 36 months (I had/have a runway of about 18 months, given the considerable capitol outlay for machinery. I am at month 14/18)"

The area will attract more lifestyle seeking residents. They want a community. But healthy communities are made up of givers, not takers. There needs to be more opportunities for people to participate and get out of their homes. I see a place where there are more third places where people can gather. (Please look up 3rd places). Where's the music, the dancing, the place with the big fireplace you can sit around while drinking coffee or a beer that you can go in the winter? There are people selling their homes elsewhere and coming here. They have money. Who welcomes them and informs them of where to spend their money locally? Of finding out their interests and helping them be a part of the community?

"Variety of stores

Better nighttime gatherings

More kid friendly stores"

Eroded and hollowed out shell of what a community used to be. Like, Newmarket...full of endless subdivisions, strip malls and crime. Thee are pieces of good examples elsewhere. None are perfect but places like Elora have enhanced their vibrant culture and have a thriving downtown mostly free big box stores.

It varies but there is no reason why we couldn't have more manufacturing or even food processing facilities, we have the room, we're an agricultural hub as well.

Tourism , Retirement, Agriculture. Not necessarily in that order.

"The northern area is in need of

-more recreational and leisure businesses (book shops, experiences, arts)

-younger populations staying here/moving here

-thrift shops

-speciality foods/health foods

-hair and nail salons

-spiritual shops

-book shops

-pet supplies

-plus sized clothing"

If new homes are coming as quickly as we see, we need infrastructure to support these new homes before we worry about growing our economy in any other way. Then we need more choice in our city and competition to drive prices to an even playing field. We shouldn't have to drive to neighbouring cities to get what we need and take money out of our city to give to neighbouring towns and cities. It's all backwards. I lived in Brampton prior to moving to the CKL. We watched what is happening here, happen there. Yet we saw business growth be allowed there to keep up. Not here.

"We will have a very large population of individuals who rely on Amazon as we don't have enough variety of stores to fulfill needs.

We also lack ability to employ individuals, in turn we will be a community who commutes to work and spends money outside our area."

I'd like to see Kawarthas increase in hosting wakeboarding festivals, fishing shows, outdoor children's camps. There is room her for custom woodworkers, cabinetmakers, specialized manufactures such as wakeboard creators, instrument makers, rural delivery/transportation services, and artisan services. Kawartha Lakes needs a proper barber... I have to do to Peterborough just to receive a decent barber shave.

A medium size town that has many parks and local commercial areas to attract tourism from outside the region, and a strong downtown core that provide safety, and a sense of community for local residences.

small independently owned and operated businesses in retail and manufacturing which are not taxed to death, will spur employment.

"More diverse large employers - our population is increasing rapidly and we need to ensure those folks are employed here as much as possible. Businesses/institutions that employ high volumes of people would be ideal, especially if they align with programs run out of Fleming College and other nearby post-secondary institutions.

Businesses that are senior-friendly, have a health-care bent, or about wellness more broadly. Our population is aging (although with new development, we may see that change) and Kawartha Lakes is a retirement destination for many. Having a plethora of businesses that cater to that demographic would be good for them.

Continuing to invest in unique tourism opportunities. Businesses that amplify our natural surroundings and promote our many smaller towns and villages, will signal our commitment to having an economy focused on sustaining a healthy environment as well as our many opportunities for finding one-of-a-kind items, unique experiences, and a journey that is historical, beautiful and relaxing. Kawartha Lakes as a tourist destination should continue to be a foundation of our economic success. We have much to offer and need to support all those small businesses that provide things that no one (or few others) can."

Ideally a vibrant array of businesses - currently severely lacking key merchants with no choice for consumers to leave the city and shop/invest elsewhere.

"As far as I can tell it doesn't look good. When I first bought in the area in 2006 I was told Walmart & Home Depot were going to open stores in Lindsay.

Now in 2024, 18 years later & there's still no sign of this happening. Smaller communities than Lindsay have a Walmart. What is the issue! political hold ups, runaround BS & companies get fed up trying, & with the population growing it's only going to get worse. I'm actually thinking of selling & moving to a different city."

I would like to see this area connect more with each other. Combine ideas, events, ubers. Businesses need more employees, but with rents for a one bedroom at over $2000.00 per month, and houses over a million or more, young talented might as well go to bigger centres where the roads and transportation systems are more established.

Strong tourism economy that identifies a strong link between smaller communities, history, culture, nature, and activities for families. A community that, not matter what the service, you can find options within our community to suit your business and personal needs. A business community that cares about a sense of community, where business owners live in the same community they do business in.

We are quickly becoming a retirement destination. We need hospital expansion local Doctors more Paramedics. We need to build rural transit and allow small towns to grow.

"Continue to make Kawartha Lakes a vacation destination.

The city would have offered incentives for development of light to medium industry in the area on Hwy 36.

Make it sufficiently attractive to get warehousing for major sporting goods or others.

Attract boat or trailer manufacturers.

Continue to develop west out by the Ramada by purchasing land and offering to more big box stores."

Tourism should be number one for this area with a focus on family venues and singles venues and seniors venues. Something for all ages. More parkland to the north of Lindsay too. Leisure should be our highest goal for this area, make it less a city and more of entertainment, relaxation and fun in the sun, snow fun in the winter.

Lower the property taxes and they will come. Leave businesses alone to do their thing. Let the councilors drive policy, not the paid staff.

"NOT big box stores

Encouraging small scale businesses

Clean manufacturing

Education facilities

Healthcare opportunies such as LTC facilities"

"Perhaps Kawartha Lakes (which is known by outsiders as beautiful country community), should move to support this feeling by embracing climate change initiatives, make Kawartha Lakes a leader in this area, therefore attracting the types of businesses that support this, such as solar manufacturers and other green industries that can support each other.

Since there is a large farming community, there needs to be education and assistance to this community to understand the climate change movement, then support them financially to change, with goals"

more small factories, doing something with the fleetwood factory

Maintain current businesses and industry , don’t add to taxes by adding too many new residential units which need new infrastructure

Not sure

A green, clean and inclusive economy doing good for both the environment and the local workforce where gains are reinvested into the whole community

year round work for locals to stay and build families

Affordable housing. No homeless camps. Subdivisions with character-filled, small houses emulating those homes built north of the Armouries during the war. Another large park with water features and boutique and craft shopping to attract tourists like the Chemanus murals in BC. Nothing cookie cutter like the current Subdivisions going up. A bridge to join Colborne Street.

Slow but steady growth.

"Huge influx of residents, more house building, less , affordable housing built down town. Preservation of the down town core, As a nice place to visit, with restaurant's on the water perhaps repurposing the old mill. No one cares

That it is there today, put it to use."

Being a rural base community.

If it continues the way it is, it will be totally destroyed. Slow down on residential building. Concentrate on keeping shoppers and renters in the area. Get a handle on the drug crisis!

"free market place

familiar businesses and new business

employment

prosperity"

A low haven for all businesses with minimal government aside from essential services

I'd like to see more midsized business willing to hire and train our existing and future job seekers, providing them better wages and transferable skills. We have so many service based businesses already. But they don't provide a living wage. If you want people to come and stay and grow this city, there has to be more for them, both to work at, and play at.

The Kawartha Lakes strategic plan supports the environmental sustainability and resilience of our community. What, if anything, needs to be done to prepare our economy and businesses to better respond, recover, and adapt to increasingly unpredictable climate and weather events?

Plan for emergencies; prepare your property; have contingency plans.

provide paper bags for shopping

"Ensure that essential infrastructure (e.g., energy, water, transportation) is resilient to extreme weather conditions. This includes reinforcing buildings, roads, and bridges to withstand floods, hurricanes, and other events.

Develop and/ or regularly update emergency response plans. With Bobcaygeon Fire Relief - the support was 3 days long before fundraising came in. What can we learn from this scenario?

Involve local communities in planning and decision-making processes to ensure that resilience measures meet their needs and priorities.

This may come across as random - but I've always thought that our First peoples were better stewards of our lands. Personally - I would like to see more leadership opportunities / more listening from Indigenous peoples on stewardship."

"Stop planning our economy and businesses around the single occupant vehicle. We need to rapidly move towards 15-minute style cities where businesses and homes are intertwined at densities to support one another. Less paving for sprawl (keeping permeable land) is much more resilient to inevitable climate events than building out. Not to mention the hefty tax base required to repair and replace core infrastructure when it is spread out with low density.

Our economy depends just as much on our natural infrastructure (% tree cover, % permeable surfaces, water recycling, no builds on floodplains, pollinators refuges) as we do on man-made infrastructure (roads, parking lots, water treatment, hospitals, etc)."

Less spending on politicians salary and more in fixing roads and preparing for climate and weather events

They need to look out for one another. Have strategies in place that can be done quickly not with a passing the buck to the next level and not in a pissing contest of look and see what we are doing to get a pat on the back, just get it done, make it easy to access whether it is equipment, manpower etc. Cast the red tape aside and put the focus back on the task at hand and what needs to get done. Effort and getting the job done instead of hurry up and wait to see who is paying for what needs to be done when lives and livlihoods are at stake. Use what you have the manpower, the equipment, the volunteers instead of arguing over whos job it is to do it.

The treatment of storm sewers should be paramount. A disconnection of downspouts and requirement for green spaces could help. As tourism grows, the facilities and maintenance to handle increased capacities through designated parking spaces, garbages, routes and advertising would help alleviate sprawl and direct businesses to their clientele.

No sure

"Building/roof structure to better withstand storms.

Increased awareness of catch basins/water supply.

Generators/backups in event of power supply interruption to prevent food spoilage.

Insurance - Are required coverages in place to ensure sustainability in event of loss."

Attracting bigger businesses who help boost the economy so not everything falls on the shoulder of small businesses allowing money to be allocated to prepare/assist businesses in unpredictable weather/climate events.

"To prepare our economy and businesses in Kawartha Lakes for increasingly unpredictable climate and weather events, it's essential to integrate environmental sustainability and resilience into our strategic planning. This involves a multifaceted approach focused on collaboration, adaptation, and education.

Firstly, working more closely with Kawartha Conservation is crucial. This partnership should focus on monitoring and enhancing the health of our lakes, rivers, and green spaces. By doing so, we can better understand the impacts of climate change locally and implement targeted interventions to mitigate these effects. This collaboration can include joint efforts in data collection, sharing best practices in land and water management, and co-developing community education programs about environmental stewardship.

In addition to strengthening our relationship with Kawartha Conservation, we need to support our local businesses in becoming more resilient to climate-related disruptions. This can be achieved by:

1. Developing Infrastructure Resilience - Encourage and assist businesses in assessing their vulnerability to climate risks like flooding, storms, and extreme temperatures. Based on these assessments, support them in upgrading infrastructure to withstand these events, such as reinforcing buildings, securing critical equipment, and ensuring adequate drainage and flood defenses.

2. Enhancing Business Continuity Planning - Provide workshops and resources to help businesses develop effective continuity plans that address potential disruptions caused by extreme weather. This includes identifying critical operations, establishing emergency procedures, and setting up communication plans to maintain contact with customers and suppliers during disruptions.

3. Promoting Sustainable Practices - Encourage businesses to adopt more sustainable practices that reduce their environmental impact and increase their adaptability. This might include utilizing renewable energy sources, reducing waste, conserving water, and choosing locally-sourced materials and products.

4. Financial and Technical Support - Facilitate access to funding and technical assistance for businesses to invest in adaptations that protect against climate change. This could include grants, low-interest loans, and tax incentives for businesses that implement sustainable technologies and practices.

5. Community and Stakeholder Engagement - Engage a broad range of stakeholders in a dialogue about climate resilience, including business leaders, local government, environmental experts, and the public. This engagement should aim to foster a community-wide commitment to sustainability and resilience, creating a supportive environment for collective action."

If our community is unified and supports everyone, our diversity and mutual support can help us weather any storms.

From the ongoing large scale development projects environmental sustainability for the community does not appear to be a priority at all. There needs to be stronger environmental programs, to eliminate the clear cutting of existing forests and filling in of watershed areas for the development of large residential subdivisions merely for profit of a few large developers. There is a lack of infrastructure (schools, water treatment, etc.) and the developers are not held accountable long term for these developments in terms of maintenance (ie water & sewers). They increase flooding by eliminating drainage.

Less housing and more farm land.

Be aware of investors who are adding multiple bathrooms to lakefront homes in order to accommodate large groups. My neighbour at 4 Coldstream Rd.has bought a three bedroom home with two bathrooms. They have proceeded to add 3 more bathrooms and a second kitchen which will be serviced by one small holding tank. I wonder if they will be directing some waste water to the lake. They are certainly not the only ones building without a permit. But " forgiveness is easier to achieve than permission.

Don’t develop any more flood plains. Also, think outside the box. For example, build on stilts, build in shock-resistance features, and think about investing in innovation to develop portable housing that can pick up and move to a mountain during a flood, to water during fires, to valleys during wind storms. Prepare the economy by tapping into global resources and developing partnerships with billionaires interested in funding KL sustainability. Go with the flow - change is going to happen whether you try to stop it or not. Be like Jesus - feed everyone with what we have instead of fostering hoarding and walled-off enclaves for the privileged only. Appeal to common humanity. Life does not need to be a game of musical chairs.

"Protect the fish by controlling the number of tournaments being run on our lakes- this resource is declining which will affect our economy.

There is nothing you can do about unpredictable weather except build a littler bigger aid fund."

This is a disappointing survey. Life in Kawartha lakes is not just about economics. It's also about maintaining and improving our infrastructure. It's about programs for children, adults, seniors. It's about getting some well paying jobs in the City. It's about the quality of life we'd like to enjoy. It's about health care and reasonable access to it. It's about safety. It's about affordable housing.

I can't think of anything currently.

Let's partner more with Fleming and get the students involved with preservation

Better roads and infrastructure, better community based warming and cooling centres

Proactively fix roads and reduce taxes

Encourage and support Green building practices, preservation of trees and parks, and access to EV charging stations as well as requiring new developments to provide a community centre that is temperature controlled.

Ensure we have enough people hired to respond to emergencies as they arise.

When it comes to responding and recovering to unpredictable climate and weather events, proper messaging and communications are the key. We need to have a plan in place to adapt as quickly as possible and make sure that message is shared as soon as possible to the local community. Reactive without a plan is not financially responsible or the proper message for any Municipality. An economic plan would be a hypothetical situation and provide a list of local business that can help if that situation arises. With the lack of local newspaper coverage the City Website needs to become its own news hub for the residents of CKL, providing resources is the key to sustainable plans for any type of strategy,

A dedicated department with qualified staff in place to educate and advocate for change.

"We need to take a serious look at how our fire departments operate or we will not be prepared for a major climate or weather event.

I understand this is likely out of EcDev's wheelhouse, but it's still THE most important aspect of preparation for our climate future. Volunteer firefighter recruitment needs to be open at all times and the DZ license requirement scrapped. Most depts. don't require a DZ license and that has been something that's made it difficult to recruit since the amalgamation. I've grown up listening to complaints about that. Compensate Vol FFs for the certifications they have to obtain—it's a paid position, if we want more bodies we need to sweeten the pot. Ask existing FFs, ESPECIALLY OUTSIDE LINDSAY, what they need.

One more thing: education and aid for those living in areas regularly impacted by flooding AND for dealing with wildfires. We have been VERY lucky, and if something happens, a lot of people won't know what to do. Education campaigns about how to prepare for climate disasters are going to be necessary in the coming years."

"As we are an area with much natural surroundings, falling trees and hydro outages could become an increasing event with unpredictable climate. Keeping hydro lines clear helps. Keeping businesses running during inclement weather could be helpful. Supporting them with generators may keep businesses open with less lose of food (stores and restaurants)

For tourism like ATV/snowmobile trails etc, you can not change the outcome of the weather's unpredictability. Cottage rentals are not really affected by weather."

Not sure

Focusing on building a strong public transportation, active transportation and trails network that supports the needs of all citizens and creates less dependence on the car. This is why I noted re-

working the commercial zoning to allow for more business in suburban areas so that more people can access the necessities through active or public transportation use.

Continue focusing on greening efforts, and preserving space for trees, shrubs, gardens and natural areas - even within white belt growth areas. Trees hold tremendous amounts of carbon and water on the earth, and they offer shade, health benefits and so much more. Implement GREEN design guidelines AS SOON AS possible so people and businesses have access to green space before it is gone during development and redevelopment. If the City builds without green design guidelines (check out City of Toronto's green design guidelines - https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/planning-development/official-plan-guidelines/toronto-green-standard/) and that space is removed, it is gone forever. If you look at Niagara on the Lake which is a booming tourist area, they have lovely green space, big majestic trees as well as lots of beautiful flowers. People love that. If you want to keep it easy, simply preserve space for trees/shrubs/gardens for all new developments/redevelopments.

huh? Is this proposing the Economic Development can influence the weather? Isn't this what insurance is for?

I don't see how the Kawartha Lakes strategic plan supports any environmental sustainability. The city has allowed developers to completely clear cut acres and acres of old growth trees for subdivisions. There are now no trees surrounding the town of Lindsay, trees that take 100 years to mature. The city has also allowed the development of all of the lakes to over capacity, destroying the natural beauty and habitat of so many animals and denying access for the local residents. As I mentioned previously, the city also sold off all of the railway property which was a lovely, economical, environmentally friendly way for people to travel to and from the area via bicycles, snowmobiles and ATV's.

This question is beyond what I know - though on the subject of environmental sustainability I would mention that the rate at which we are losing green spaces and farmland to new developments is troubling to say the least.

"If every individual and business adheres to the regulations from the city, and we all take responsibility for climate change and take action in our own lives. we can solve it by all doing our bit for the planet by making everyday choices.

If every business and everyone made some simple changes, the positive impact would be massive.

We need to get to a point where the easy way is the sustainable way and this will allow the future generations to do the same."

enhancing reliable support and follow-through from local authorities. Addressing this issue can foster sustained business growth and investment in the local economy. Reliable support includes clear communication, consistent follow-up, and accessible resources from the Chamber, counselors, the mayor, the MP, and the MPP. Make ALL businesses feel supported!!

Better public transportation between townships, as well as availability for public transportation to Toronto/GTA for many individuals who cannot drive the distance.

Unsure

Simply be brilliant in the basics and use common sense. Ensure fire hydrants are working, homes are built in proper locations, 911 responders properly supported, communication systems updated and of course involve the community itself.

I feel in this aspect, we do pretty good in Lindsay.

Since Covid things are starting to pick up, they're getting more events and things going on in Lindsay, which is really good. People enjoy the outings and the events that go on and Lindsay, but with all the people coming to live in Lindsay now we need more.

not sure

Our sports teams require bigger spaces, more ice pads, ball diamonds, and soccer fields. We need indoor walking tracks for health-conscious individuals. We require all this so that families with competitive sports as a priority will come to Lindsay. Right now, I can name off a few dozen families that drive outside of Lindsay for sports because we don't offer the competitive advantages here. Lack of ice time and field time is a real problem today and has been for decades.

CKL needs to desperately invest in water and sewer infrastructure in a way that can manage residential growth and industrial use. A industrial park with no managed water/sewer system? Sounds like an environmental disaster waiting to happen. Set it up, control it and yes, CHARGE FOR IT. There are several water management solutions from here at home and abroad in my industry (textiles) that address these efficiencies. Any saving of resources becomes money in the bank in my industry. Green=Green.

"New homes need to have mandatory hurricane straps, like Barrie bylaw. (People don't know we're in a tornado alley here). There are other things people can do. See insurance companies for info.

We need more urban trees to reduce the heat sink. The town needs to take better care of their existing trees planted in parks.

Technology is available to provide guidance after extreme weather events.

Home vegetable gardens need to be encouraged to increase food security.

A series of educational sessions with lessons learned from past disasters. Our company was prepared for COvID because of sessions I went to after SARS. I also went to one presented by a ED of the Goderich Chamber after their tornado."

"Clean up the scogogg River and build there for summer boating seasons

Stop addicts from polluting the river.

People come shop for things before heading to cottages.

Walmart or a bog box"

The conservation authority have good people who know about sustainable development. It is being ignored, eviscerated and underfunded at both the Provincial and municipal level.

Plow the roads the day it snows not 2 days later.

No idea.

" -Reliable internet services

-Functional buildings

-education and resources

-emergency resources and plans

-hydro assessments

-strengthen supply sourcing methods

-infrastructure adaptations"

"Be proactive and plan the infrastructure with climate change in mind. Hire people with these qualifications to be prepared for this. What does this look like for the lakes around our community. We are already seeing overfishing and waste of freshwater life from our lakes from people

Coming from the city. How is the MNR supporting and monitoring our communities? What other divisions are needing monitoring to keep our climate consciousness at top priority?"

Each year tornado and storms are becoming more severe. Tree maintenance is important. Water edge, encourage individuals to put water toys away, ect

Bring in a new Canadian center to service new Canadians. Reduce the red tape when it comes to locals building long term industrious dreams in the Kawarthas.

stormwater management which includes ways to address the amount of water generated through imperviousness and the quality of stormewater which all discharges into the Kawartha Lakes. The lack of infrastructure was apparent during the Aug 3, 2023 hail storm.

Nothing. Yes, the temperature has increased in the past 50 years but so has the methods used to calculate temperature - it is not a level playing field. The earth naturally heats up and cools down.

More awareness of supports that are already in place that help those impacted by such events; more awareness of who can provide what; clearer guidelines for expectations of how the City will respond in certain situations and what services we can (and specifically cannot) provide.

no comment

No idea

Again, we all have unique situations. Someone one in Lindsay, doesn't understanding what flooding does to a lakeside home. Lakeside cottages setting off fireworks in dry conditions, don't understand the homes near woods (backlots). The infrastructure needs to be consistent in all communities for sewage; wifi; phone service. We are a community of communities, that are rural, urban, wifi, no wifi, lack of water to too much water. Heritage and new. We don't talk to one another. WE dont share with one another. The City needs to bring people together more - not divide us.

Incorporate more low impact design elements to our urban business development areas.

Fenelon needs a bypass I have always hoped for the bridge at the 3rd concession going all the way to county rd 49 to get all of the heavy trucks and traffic to Hwy 35. We need sewage and water treatment expansion before we allow growth, Bobcaygeon did it right years ago with port 32 why can't we learn from that.

A legitimate in-person election, is a start.

It's sufficient for the moment.

Have individual community plans for times of crisis. A centralized system where people can go to gather supplies, etc. For example, Community Centres in each community should be equipped with cots/blankets/first aid/water for unpredicatable weather events. Families can sign up to assist with overflow if their location is deemed as a safe place to go.

This is a nonsensical question.

Transportation strategy

"Repeats of above, copied here...

Perhaps Kawartha Lakes (which is known by outsiders as beautiful country community), should move to support this feeling by embracing climate change initiatives, make Kawartha Lakes a leader in this area, therefore attracting the types of businesses that support this, such as solar manufacturers and other green industries that can support each other.

Since there is a large farming community, there needs to be education and assistance to this community to understand the climate change movement, then support them financially to change, with goals.

Stop or control misinformation out there, you cant have a solid trustworthy plan if missinformation mixes everyone up, what are we to believe and support to move together as one cohesive community. Set a long term course that should be non-partisan."

more community gardens, green roofs, helping with solar systems, and roof top wind mills, organic waste collection, more waste reduction

Training of city staff

I’m not sure

If our economy is focused on green/clean future-oriented business this will be a start towards climate resilience both of business being developed and our contribution to climate resilience

There has always been issues. Invest in ways to deal with ways to limit current carbon while building green alternatives at same time

Emergency preparedness plan that is easily implemented. Schools and gyms and churches and community centres. The LEX able to provide food and water.

" - Invasive species control

- EV support (Town fleet) and charging stations

- turfgrass removal and replacement with native plants ,shrubs and trees

-"

Nothing

Protect our rural interest. Protect the farms and the rural life style.

Stop cutting down all our trees to build houses, OR add commercial which will provide jobs. And for the love of God take advantage of our river. Take a page out of the Fenelon Falls and Bobcaygeon handbook!

"forget electric vehicles

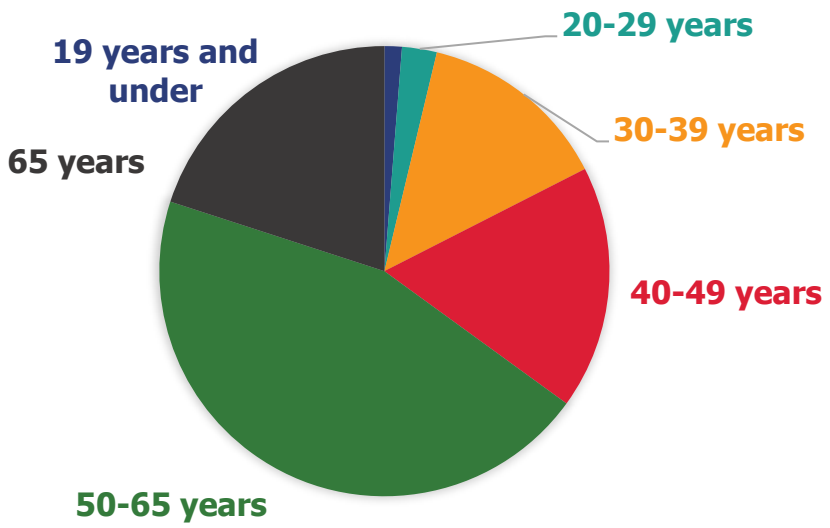
have emergency planning and forget the climate change money grab"

Nothing

A larger or better organized first responder system. We are the city of Kawartha Lakes, yet fire and ambulance still respond to emergencies as individual towns. As the population grows we need to be a larger, more unified cohesive emergency organization. Territories or Boundaries need to be extended or reworked so emergencies can be handled more effectively. And we need to petition the Ontario government for more funding to reopen beds at Ross Memorial. And we need one doctors, along with firefighters paramedics and police officers

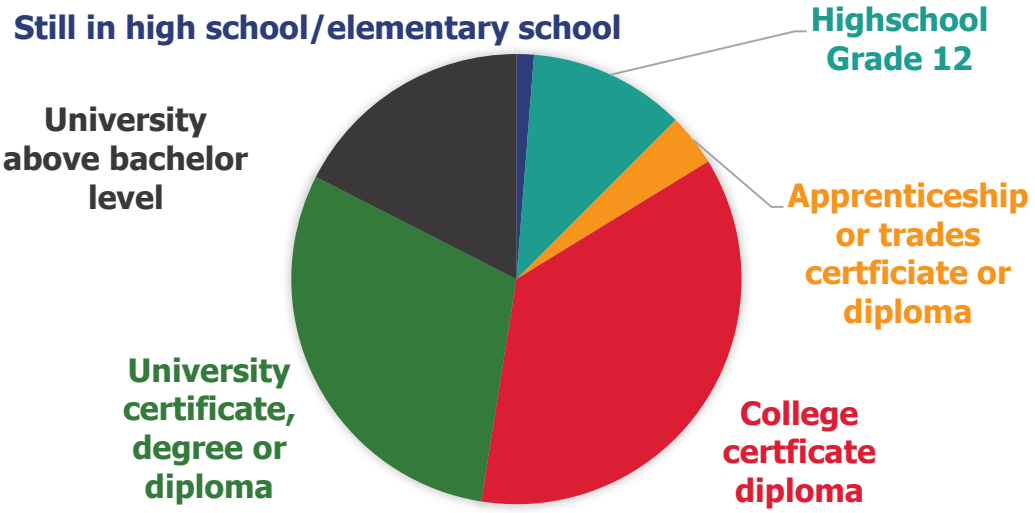
Demographics

What is your age?



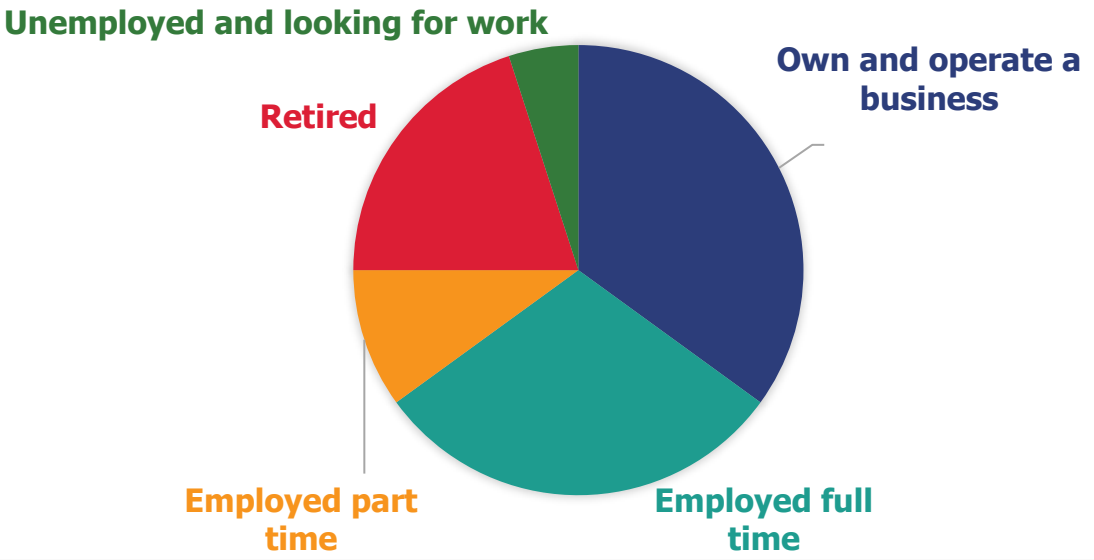
Answer Choice	Percentage of responses
19 years and under	1%
20-29 years	3%
30-39 years	14%
40-49 years	18%
50-65 years	45%
65 years plus	20%

What is your highest level of formal education?



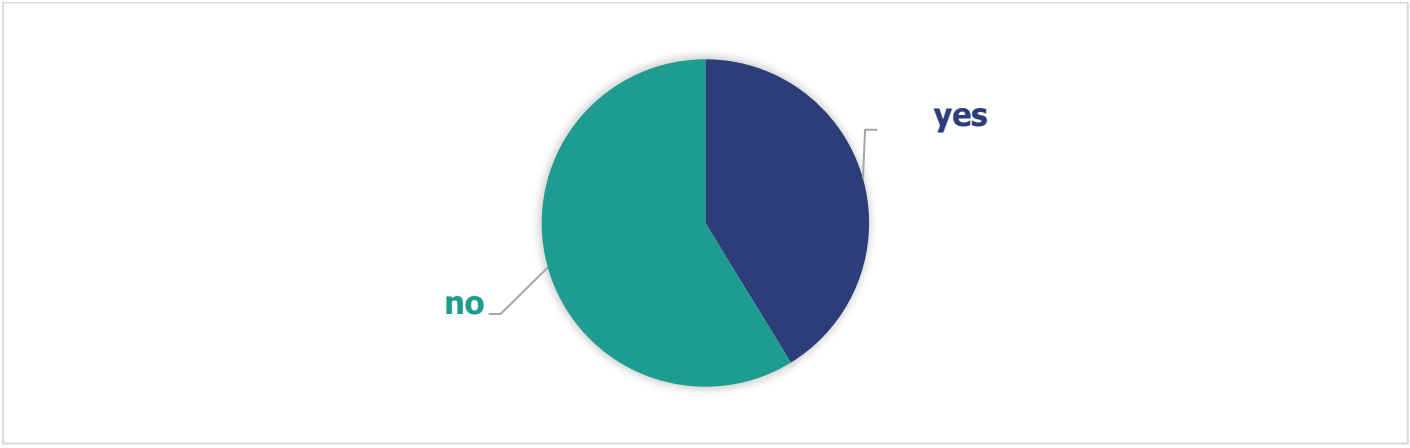
Answer Choice	Percentage of responses
Still in high school/elementary school	1%
Highschool Grade 12	11%
Apprenticeship or trades certficiate or diploma	4%
College certificate diploma	36%
University certificate, degree or diploma	30%
University above bachelor level	18%

What best describes your current employment status?



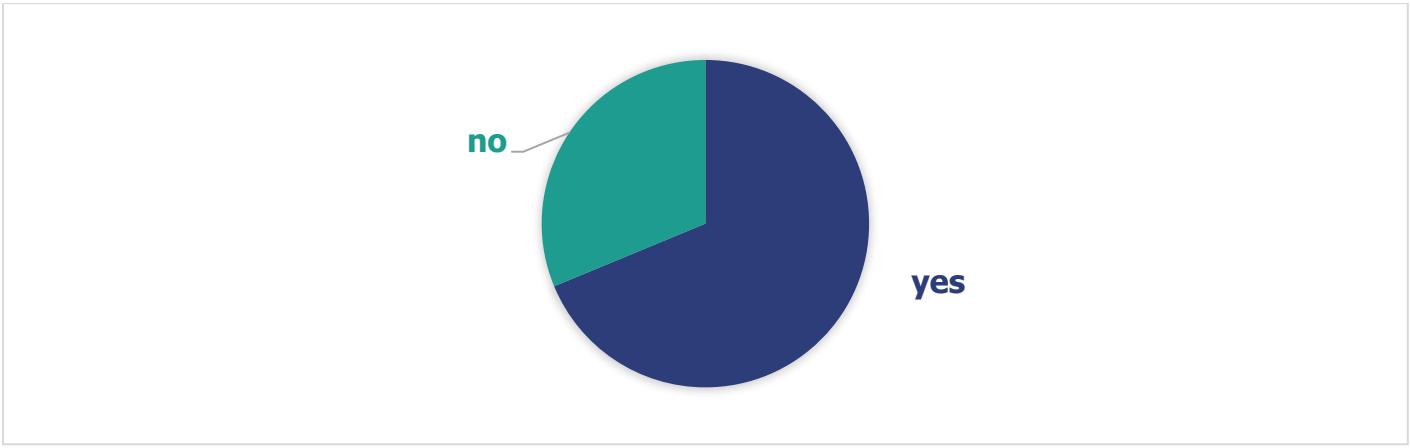
Answer Choice	Percentage of responses
Own and operate a business	35%
Employed full time	30%
Employed part time	10%
Retired	20%
Unemployed and looking for work	5%
Unemployed and not looking for work	0%

Did you grow up within the current City of Kawartha Lakes boundary?



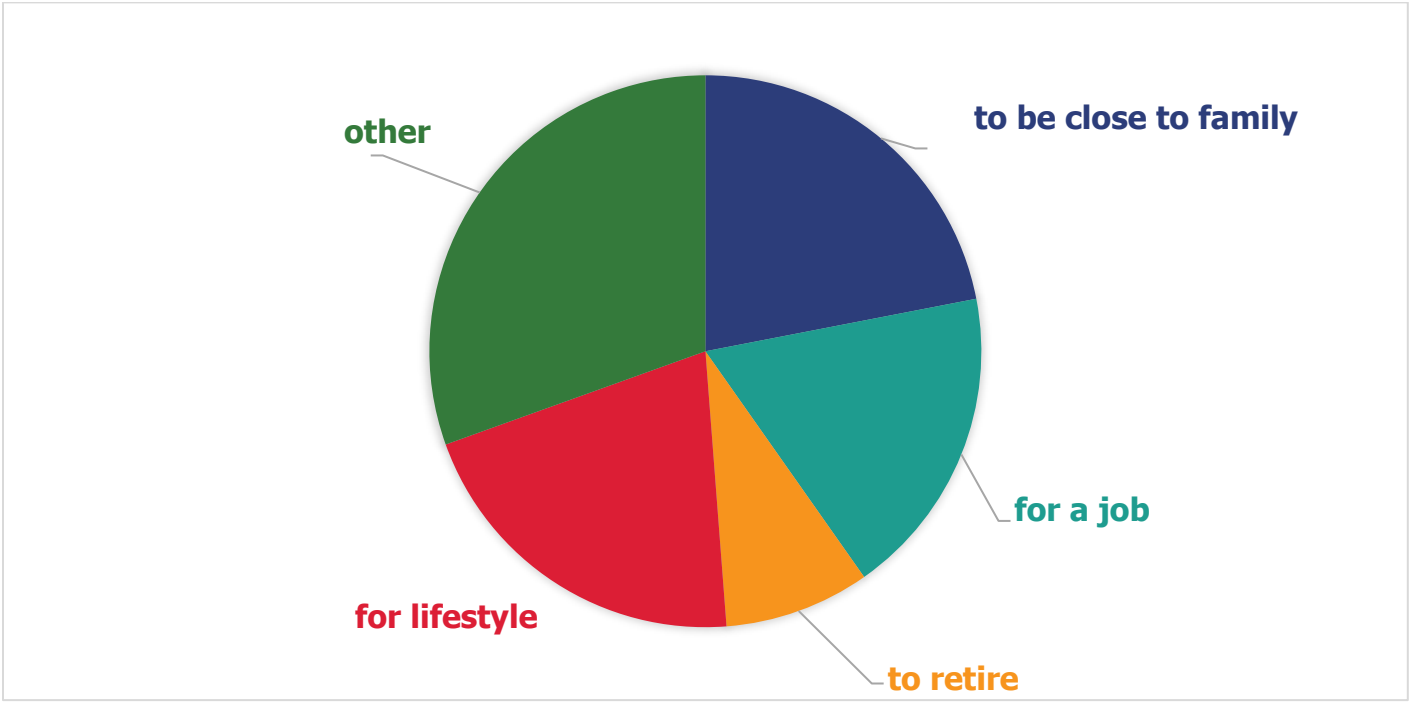
Answer Choice	Percentage of responses
Yes	41%
No	59%

Did you move (or come back) to the City of Kawartha Lakes from somewhere else?



Answer Choice	Percentage of responses
Yes	69%
No	31%

If yes, why did you move to Kawartha Lakes?



Answer Choice	Percentage of responses
to be close to family	23%
for a job	16%
to retire	9%
for lifestyle	21%
other	31%

Other:

- Price of housing years back
- Agricultural land.
- I met my wife here, and was moved by my company to another community. After 4 years of being away from Kawartha Lakes, it was the one place I'd been that truly felt like home, and I returned.
- I was fleeing criminal reprisal for exercise of my conscience. It was no better here but I had to stop running and fight the menace.
- It was affordable housing that brought me here
- I grew up in Norland, moved to Durham Region for school/work, came back when I lost my job, been here since.

- to purchase a business
- To care for my mother who has Alzheimer's.
- I moved to KL when I married my husband who was already working a stable job here.
- Parents moved to Bethany
- Set up my creative business in a place where women-led is normal and active, green lifestyle is fantastic.
- We wanted a bungalow as leading age baby boomers were buying them up and we figured we better get one before they'd be hard to buy. We needed high speed internet to be able to work from home if needed. Wanted a place drivable to Port Perry, where our office was. We wanted. Smallish town that still had a community feel.
- To raise a family
- To marry a local.
- college
- Family business
- I own a farm within Kawartha lakes. Have been in the family since 1850
- Low housing costs