

## Bio: Melissa Maddocks



I was born and raised in Chatham-Kent, Ontario. I studied at the University of Ottawa and became a University of Ottawa Gee-Gees Women Varsity Volleyball alumni.

My husband (Aubrey Knezacek) and I moved to Hanley in 2012. Since then we have grown our family and have three full of life daughters: Callie (7), Pyper (5), and Havyn (3); and stepson Peyton (14).

I have worked for the Federal Government for 10+years. My progression in my career has recently provided me the opportunity to be in an acting managerial role, which is responsible for staffing relations, budget, office/building operations, information management and administrative services.

I have been involved and co-organized many fundraising events (Ladies Night, Tradeshows etc.) within Hanley over the past several years.

I served on Town Council since 2015 by acclamation and looking for support to serve the town of Hanley as a Councillor for another 4 years.

### **1. What has spurred you to run for Council?**

As a young growing family, I wanted to be part of the discussion and decisions that were being made in the place that we choose to call hometown for our children. The best way to do this was to have a seat at the Council table and to get involved in the community. I also have an invested interest as a resident of Hanley to see tax dollars used carefully to keep costs down while delivering the necessary services.

### **2. What do you love about your Town?**

The Town of Hanley has a community-orientated atmosphere. It's inviting/welcoming. It has the charm of a small town, but with many amenities not offered by other small towns. The Town of Hanley has many things to be proud of from its volunteer committees, organizations, local businesses, to its continued growth/development and updated infrastructure, all of which are things the Town of Hanley can boast about!

### **3. What would you push to change if elected?**

I would engage in a conversation on creating a Facilities Manager within the Town of Hanley. I see this role as imperative to the future of Hanley infrastructure and the continued success of the many volunteer committees, who utilize these buildings.

This position would allow the individual volunteer committees to focus on the operations and specific needs of the groups and events, and not have the added pressures of ensuring the maintenance of the facilities.

Additionally, to ensure the success of town growth and development, further resources may be required and this position could hold additional duties, which could support the Town Foreman position, in the future.

### **4. Why do you feel you would make a good Councillor?**

- Finding solutions to problems and being resourceful
- Dedicated to the success of the town
- Able to have hard conversations and voice concerns even when they are not of the popular opinion
- Community orientated
- I often challenge the notion of things being done because "that's how they have always been done." To me this screams inefficiency and there is usually always a better way, just no one has taken the initiative or the motivation to look deeper.

- 5 years of current experience being a Councillor for the Town of Hanley. This experience has taught me how to be a good Councillor by working hard to contribute to policies that positively affect the community.

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