

**Cable 14 Ward 1 Hamilton City Council Debate**  
**Opening Words**  
**Mon, Sep 10, 2018**

My name is Lyla Miklos.

I am committed to making the city I love an even better place to live, work and play. Outgoing Ward 1 Councillor, Aidan Johnson, broke barriers when he became the first out member of our LGBTQ community to be elected to City Council. As an out queer woman I want to build on his progressive legacy and continue to represent my Ward with the dignity, honour and professionalism he exemplified.

I am a proud Hamiltonian. I have served as a board or committee member with Hamilton Pride, Hamilton's Status of Women Committee, the Hamilton Independent Media Awards, Mohawk College's Alumni Association, Hamilton Theatre Inc., Strengthening Hamilton's Community Initiative and Elect More Women.

I am a proud labour activist and an advocate for democracy, equity and diversity. As a member of OSSTF D21 OCTU I have served as Chief Negotiator, Political Action Committee Chair and OFL Solidarity and Pride Committee Rep.

I am an artist. Expression through art is a cornerstone of any culture. Art defines, shapes, heals and inspires us.

I am a media professional. Currently I am the Host and Producer of Centre Stage on 101.5 FM The Hawk and Owner of Lyla The Publicist. I believe in making connections and finding those things that bring us together rather than drive us apart.

As a Lay Chaplain for the First Unitarian Church of Hamilton I am also a woman of faith. Faith not in a higher power that will save us from ourselves, but rather faith in humanity's potential. Because when we come together for a common collective positive purpose we are capable of doing extraordinary things.