

From: Miranda Gray <miranda4w1@gmail.com>
Sent: September 19, 2018 12:50 AM
To: Heather Pope
Subject: Re: Dementia and Criminal Justice - Ottawa Municipal Election

Hi, Heather,

Your have some fascinating information on your website. Thanks for sending this letter to let all candidates know of your organization.

How will you work to improve the lives of people with dementia who live in a municipal long-term care home and become involved with the criminal justice system (e.g., are violent toward staff or another resident and are charged with assault)?

My preference is to give staff time to discuss preventative strategies for managing patients with dementia whose response is trending towards violence. This would include paid training time for front end staff (not just managers).

For clients who are escalating or who commit a serious injury another person, we will need to place them in smaller units with a higher staff ratio to keep staff and other residents safe. This is more costly than keeping them in their current place but will be much less expensive than dealing with them through the justice system.

For people with dementia who are involved in the criminal justice system, we will need to have a strategy at the provincial and city level to handle these people with dignity and appropriate care. Again this would be segregated care in a even more restrictive system. But it would not be the main jail or bail context. I am imagining a system closer to the women's detention system - health care in a small unit with high staff ratio. I would consider this a new type of long term care bed with management as acute care beds are managed. So people wouldn't lose their housing, they would transfer programs.

I'd like to mention that I also support training for police officers in dealing with people with mental health issues (included diagnosed or diagnosed dementia). For minor disturbances in the community, I prefer a dementia based alternative justice diversion program, not unlike first offender diversion programs. I consider this a health matter, not a criminal justice issue.

Thank you for bringing your issues into the election discussions,
Miranda Gray
Candidate, City Councillor for Orléans Ward

Don't forget to vote on October 22, 2018!

On Tue, Sep 18, 2018 at 5:01 PM, Heather Pope <dementiajustice@outlook.com> wrote:

Dear Candidate:

On behalf of the Dementia Justice Society of Canada, I am writing to ask a campaign question: "If elected, how will you work to improve the lives of people with dementia who live in a municipal long-term care home and become involved with the criminal justice system (e.g., are violent toward staff or another resident and are charged with assault)?"

Dementia Justice is a federally-incorporated non-profit society dedicated to advancing the rights, needs and dignity of people with dementia who are, or are at risk of becoming, involved with the criminal justice system. We strive to achieve our objectives through public advocacy, awareness-raising, education, and interdisciplinary legal and policy research.

Our current volunteer advisory board members are:

- Nicole Dalmer, PhD candidate, Faculty of Information and Media Studies, University of Western Ontario;
- Professor Margaret Isabel Hall, Faculty of Law, Thompson Rivers University;
- Barbara Lindsay, Director of Advocacy and Education & Marketing and Communications, Alzheimer Society of British Columbia;
- Helene Love, doctoral candidate, Faculty of Law, University of Toronto;
- Aileen McGinty, Crown Attorney, Mental Health Court and Court Monitored Drug Treatment Program, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia; and
- Daina Stanley, PhD candidate, Medical Anthropology, McMaster University.

For your reference, several of our advocacy materials are posted on our website, including our 2017 [submission](#) to the federal Department of Justice in response to its transforming the criminal justice system initiative.

Kindly note that we intend to post your response on our website for voters to read.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes with your campaign.

Sincerely,

Heather Pope, BA (Hons.), LLB, LLM

Director

Dementia Justice Society of Canada

